

## Lawrence "Larry" ✓ Joseph Bissen, 68 ✓

July 23, 1949 - March 24, 2018

**DEFIANCE** – Lawrence "Larry" Joseph Bissen, son of Joseph P. and Pauline J. (Feser) Bissen was born July 23, 1949 in Defiance. He attended St. Joseph's Catholic School in Earling until closing in 1967. He graduated from Harlan Community High School with the class of 1968.

In his early years, he enjoyed trap shooting, trapping and hunting. Larry worked at Western Iowa Pork from 1968 until 1972, then farmed the family farm for many years. Larry moved to Jacksonville in 2011, where he operated Bissen Logging and Firewood until he became ill. He was well known by his nickname "Woodchuck". Larry was a hard worker and was very proud of the business he built, especially his contract with Cracker Barrel.

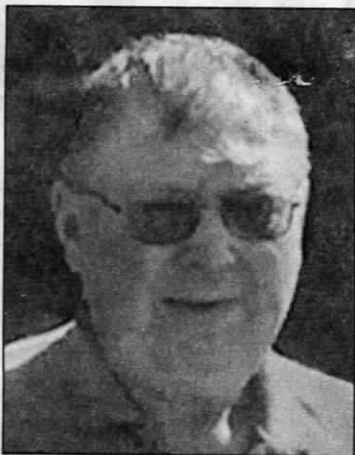
In his pastime, Larry enjoyed camping, Chinese food, traveling, and going on poker runs around Harlan. He also loved miniature golf. Larry enjoyed barbecuing, hosting his annual birthday party and spending time with friends. The past few years he enjoyed his Thursday afternoons at the local pub with friends telling jokes and stories. They called themselves the old farts club.

Larry passed away on Saturday, March 24, 2018 at Jennie Edmondson Hospital in Council Bluffs attaining the age of 68 years, eight months, and one day. He was preceded in death by his parents.

Larry is survived by his sister Kathy and her husband Alan Wilwerding of Defiance; brother Darrell Bissen and his wife Darlene of Denison; nephews Justin Wilwerding of Pleasant Hill; Michael Bissen and his wife Carissa of Maumelle, AR; Ryan Bissen and his fiancé Samantha Banser of Des Moines; nieces Beth Wilwerding of Las Vegas, NV; Christina Bissen of Denison; grandnieces Angel, Talia, Rhylee, and Rachel; special friend Cathy Drelicharz of Omaha, NE; other family members and many friends.

An 11 a.m. funeral service was celebrated by Rev. Guthrie Dolan on Saturday, March 31, 2018 at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Defiance. Justin Wilwerding, Beth Wilwerding, Michael Bissen, Christina Bissen, and Ryan Bissen served as honorary pall bearers. Inurnment will take place at a later date at St. Joseph's Cemetery in Earling.

Pauley Jones Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.



*Pauley Jones*  
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