

Leonard "Bud" Bissen, 87

Nov. 9, 1922 - May 25, 2010

DEFIANCE — Leonard "Bud" Marcus Bissen, oldest son of Joseph John and Anna (Erlbacher) Bissen, was born on November 9, 1922, in Buck Grove. He was baptized and confirmed at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Defiance, and attended St. Paul's grade school and high school graduating in 1941.

June 27, 1945, Bud was inducted into the United States Navy in Denison. During World War II, Bud served in Great Lakes, IL, and in Pearl Harbor, HI serving aboard the USS Bagley. Bud was honorably discharged on July 10, 1946, in Minneapolis, MN, having attained the rank of Seaman Second Class.



After returning home from the service, Bud was united in marriage to Bernice Kenkel on October 1, 1946 at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Earling. Their three children are: Betty, Bill, and Barb. After their wedding, Bud and Bernice made their home north of Earling for five years before moving two miles north of Defiance where Bud farmed and raised livestock. Bud was a lifetime member of St. Peter's Catholic Church in Defiance and was an active member of Knights of Columbus, Council No. 1741, of Earling. He was also active with the local 4-H Club activities for many years and the Defiance and Westphalia American Legion Post No. 707. Bud served on the Board of Education for St. Paul's Catholic School and the St. Peter's Finance and Cemetery Committee. He enjoyed spending time in the outdoors while farming and gardening and also while golfing, fishing and hunting. Bud had a great sense of humor and should always be remembered for his commitment to his faith, his family, his farm and his flag. He made many Job's Tears rosaries for his family and friends. Bud was honored when he was able to make the Honor Flight to Washington D.C. and visit the World War II Monument. He was extremely proud of his service and his participation each year in the Memorial Day Service. Bud died on Tuesday, May 25, 2010, at Creighton Medical Center in Omaha, NE, having attained the age of eighty-seven years, six months, and sixteen days.

Bud is preceded in death by his parents and his brother Francis. He is survived by his wife, Bernice Bissen of Defiance; their children: Betty and her husband Gail Foxhoven of Earling; Bill Bissen of Defiance; Barb Doran of Plano, TX; six grandchildren: Tammy and her husband Greg Bladt of Harlan; John Foxhoven of Omaha, NE; Ann Foxhoven of Earling; Marcus Doran, Rachel Doran and Alison Doran all of Plano, TX; four great-grandchildren: Drew, Haley, Alex, and Aiden Bladt; his siblings: Benita Schiltz of Earling; Marvin Bissen and his wife Helen of Harlan; Ann Christiansen of Carroll; nieces, nephews, other family members and many friends.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held on Sunday, May 30, 2010, at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Defiance, with Rev. Howard Fitzgerald cele-

brating and Rev. Ben Kenkel concelebrating the 2:30 PM service. Military Rites were held at Sts. Peter & Paul Cemetery in Defiance by the Defiance and Westphalia American Legion Post No. 707. Serving as casket bearers were: Dean Bissen, Delbert Bissen, Dennis Bissen, Bob Schiltz, John Foxhoven, and Marcus Doran.

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