

Zeno J. Blum, 77

March 1, 1921 - March 21, 1998

EARLING - Zeno Joseph Blum, son of Nick and Sophia (Leenan) Blum, was born March 1, 1921, at Buck Grove. he was baptized, confirmed and received his first holy communion at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Buck Grove. He attended country school a mile from his home and he grew to adulthood on the family farm.

He married Marie Heese Oct. 17, 1945, at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Earling. They were the parents of six children. After their marriage, they lived on a farm southwest of Buck Grove for four years. In 1949, they moved south of Earling to the farm they purchased and lived there until they moved to their home in Earling in 1982. He spent his life dedicated to farming and he was named Farmer of the Year in 1976. He was a member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Earling, and the Knights of Columbus Council #1741. He was also a member of the Earling Volunteer Fire Department, the Commercial Club, President of the Farmer's Union and the Parish Council President of St. Joseph's Catholic Church. He was also a member of the Westphalia Board of Directors of Farmer's Mutual Insurance. He died March 21, 1998, at Myrtue Memorial Hospital at age 77 years and 20 days.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his grandson, Todd; his sister, Devota; his brothers, Lloyd, Cecil and Robert; infant brother, Zeno, and sister, Madona. He is survived by his wife, Marie Blum of Earling; his children Nancy Gaul of Harlan; Darrell (Betty) of Earling; Steve (Marcia) of Omaha; Phil (Janet) of Earling; Jeff (Judi) of Ames; Patrick (Amy) of Freeport, IL; 18 grandchildren and four great grandchildren; nieces, nephews and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was concelebrated March 24, 1998, at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Earling, with Rev. Michael Berner celebrant and Rev. Cornelius Gaul and Rev. Jon Kautzky concelebrating. Burial was in St. Joseph's Cemetery in Earling, with Chris Blum, Cecil Blum Jr., Jason Gaul, David Blum, Dr. Allen Blume and Kevin Blum casket bearers. Pauley Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

