

William Ralph "Rudy" Costello, 83

Oct. 9, 1913 - Nov. 2, 1996

RANDOLPH - William Ralph "Rudy" Costello, son of William Rudolph and Olie Ethel (Gee) Costello, was born Oct. 9, 1913, in Fremont County, rural Imogene, and died Nov. 2, 1996, at the Clarkson Hospital in Omaha, at age 83 years and 23 days. He grew up in the Imogene and Strahan communities and graduated from Strahan High School in 1929. He also attended Simpson College at Indianola.

June 27, 1943, he married Elaine Longinaker at her parents' home in Randolph. Following their marriage they lived in Denver, CO, where he was employed in Navy Construction. In December of 1943, they returned to Iowa. They moved to their present farm home north of Randolph in the Spring of 1944, where he was engaged in farming and livestock feeding. To this union three children, Richard, Sara, and Susan were born. He was a member of the Reformed Church in Imogene, which his grandparents founded. After his marriage he joined the Presbyterian Church in Randolph. He was active in the Randolph Masonic Lodge, having received his 50 year membership. He had served on the Randolph School Board and helped with the organization of the Fremont-Mills consolidated schools, served on the advisory board for the founding of Iowa Western Community College, was active in Fremont County 4-H, the Republican Party, and had been honored as a 50 year member of the Omaha Livestock Exchange.

Preceding him in death were his parents; a brother, Darrel, and an infant granddaughter, Jennifer Costello. He is survived by his wife, Elaine of Randolph; son, Richard Costello (Catherine) of Randolph; two daughters, Sara (Ron) McKinney of Harlan; Susan Costello of Shenandoah; eight grandchildren; eight great grandchildren; two brothers, Charles Costello of Malvern; Lynn Costello (Marcella) of Imogene; a sister-in-law, Betty Costello of Arlington; numerous nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Nov. 5, 1996, at the Randolph Presbyterian Church with Rev. Don Lozer officiating. Burial was in the Randolph Cemetery. Honorary casket bearers were Ralph Dalton, Roy Davis, Merle Dodd, Don Jamison, Ted Knight, Jesse McIntyre, Tom Rumery, Clark Vanatta, Jack Walker, Warren Wilson and Donald Wolfe. Casket bearers were Bill Costello, Mark Costello, Randy Costello, Jay Longinaker, Jim Ross and Wade Wederquist.