



Joseph Benedict Dotzler, 87

March 21, 1906 - April 2, 1993

DEFIANCE — Joseph B. Dotzler, son of Joseph and Margaret (Blum) Dotzler, was born March 21, 1906 in Templeton. He died April 2, 1993, in Earling, at age 87 years and 12 days. He received his First Communion and was confirmed at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Defiance. He attended St. Paul's Catholic High School through the 8th grade. After St. Paul's opened it was his job to walk up and stoke the fire at school before bed. He helped his dad in the Harness Leather Shop and acquired the nickname "fix em". He also chauffeured the doctor on house calls.

Sept. 14, 1926, he married

Leona Grobmeier and they moved to a farm north of the watertower in Defiance. Five children were born to this union. He farmed this farm until he retired in 1970. After Leona died in Jan., 1984, he continued to live there until he became ill in July 1991. In Oct., 1991 he became a resident of Little Flower Haven until his death. He was a continuous member of St. Peter's parish for 80 years. In 1935 he helped with the building of the parish hall and clubhouse. He was a member of the Defiance Public School board during the 1950's. He hauled coal to St. Peter's Church and school.

In addition to his parents and his wife, Leona, he was preceded in death by his daughter, Grace Wilwerding and son, Kenny; one granddaughter, Lois Cromwell; 4 sisters, Margaret Koppold, Lena Schlier, Barbara Koppold and an infant, Katie; 3 brothers, Adolph, Aloysius, and an infant, Pete. Surviving him are 3 sons, Bob (Janette) of Defiance; Ray (Delores) of Omaha; Don (Janet) of Defiance; a daughter-in-law, Gerry of Omaha; 21 grandchildren; 46 great-grandchildren; 1 sister, Irene (Jake) Erlbacher of Harlan; 1 brother, Felix of Harlan; nieces, nephews, and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was concelebrated April 5, 1993 at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Defiance with Rev. Dennis Trausch, celebrant and Rev. Chuck Kottas and Rev. Edward Kelly, concelebrating. Burial was in Sts. Peter and Paul cemetery in Defiance with Mike Dotzler, Denny Wilwerding, Jim Dotzler, Joe B. Dotzler, Ray Dotzler, Jr., and Joe J. Dotzler, casketbearers. Pauley Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.