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Larry Finken, 86 Sept. 14, 1909 - Dec. 5, 1995

Panama - Lawrence 'Larry' Michael Finken, son of Nicholas and Anna (Bieker) Finken, was born on Sept. 14, 1909 near Westphalia. He was baptized at St. Boniface Catholic Church in Westphalia and confirmed at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Earling. He attended St. Joseph's School in Earling.

April 30, 1940 he married Sally Blum at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Panama. Three children were born to this union. Dec. 17, 1942 he entered the United States Army Air Force, serving his country during WW II. After his honorable discharge Oct. 13, 1945, he returned to Panama and the

family moved to the farm where they now resided. He farmed west of Panama and also operated a barber shop in Panama. After retiring in 1980, they continued to make their home on the farm and later moved into Panama. He died Dec. 5, 1995 at the Myrtue Memorial Hospital at age 86 years, two months and 21 days. He was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Panama, the Knights of Columbus, Earling Council #1741, the Panama American Legion Post #601 and the Panama Senior Citizens. For thirty-five years they had enjoyed square dancing and ballroom dancing and they had the privilege of observing their 55th wedding anniversary in April of this year.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a grandson, Danny Wangner, and his brothers and sister, Walt, Albert 'Rusty', Frank and Mark Finken and Elsie Assman. He is survived by his wife, Sally Finken of Panama; his children, Bonnie (Bob) Wangner of Boca Raton, FL; Ken (Sue) Finken of Co. Bluffs and Dean (Carol) Finken of Atlantic; five grandchildren; two brothers, Vic (Joy) Finken and Ray (Florence) Finken of Earling; two sisters, Elvira Miller of Earling and Mildred Ritz of Hesperia, CA; nieces, nephews and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Dec. 8, 1995 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Panama with Rev. Paul Bianchi celebrant. Burial was in St. Mary's Cemetery in Panama with Tom Blum, Bud Chamberlain, Mike Blum, Duane Finken, Don Chamberlain, Keith Finken and Ted Chamberlain casket bearers. Pauley Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.