

**David Graeve rites today —**

# Defiance boy killed in accident Sunday

**DEFIANCE** - Services for accident victim David Graeve, nine-year-old son of Philip and Harriett Graeve of Defiance, will be held at 10:30 a.m. today (Wednesday) at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Defiance. Burial will be at Sts. Peter & Paul Cemetery, Defiance.

Investigators said David died of injuries suffered about 1:40 p.m. Sunday when he was hit by a car while playing on a bridge one-half mile south of Defiance on "old" Highway 59.

He was pronounced dead on arrival at Myrtue Memorial Hospital in Harlan.

Shelby County Deputy Sheriff Mark Kaufman said David and another youth were playing on the bridge when

Graeve's companion crossed the bridge.

Graeve then crossed the bridge and was in the path of a northbound vehicle driven by Jeffrey S. Hicks, 25, Irwin, when the collision occurred.

Kaufman said the Hicks car braked but was unable to avoid the collision. "It was an unavoidable tragedy," Kaufman said.

No charges will be filed against Hicks, he added. The case remained under investigation Monday afternoon.

## DESCRIPTION OF SCENE

"The boys were playing on the bridge. They had bicycles with them, but the bikes were in the ditch. They were not being ridden at the time of the accident," Kaufman reported.

The collision occurred about one-half mile from the Graeve boy's home.

Kaufman said the accident victim was transported by Irwin Rescue Unit to Myrtue Memorial. Also assisting at the scene were the Defiance Fire & Rescue personnel and Chief Deputy Mark Hervey of the Shelby County Sheriff's Department.

## BIOGRAPHY

David was a third-grade student at

Harlan St. Michael's School, where he was a pupil in an enrichment program for gifted students. He also participated in a wrestling program in Harlan and was a member of St. Peter's Catholic Church in Defiance.

He was born Sept. 18, 1978, in Omaha, NE.

Surviving besides his parents are three brothers -- Kirk, Kevin and Richard, all at home; paternal grandmother, Alice (Mrs. Melvin) Stolz, Harlan; and maternal grandmother, Phoebe (Mrs. Harry) Skinner of Council Bluffs.

Wake services were scheduled at 8 p.m. Monday and Tuesday at the Pauley Funeral Home in Harlan.



**DAVID  
GRAEVE**