



William Grote, 96 ✓

Jan. 19, 1898 - Oct. 12, 1994

Portsmouth - William F. Grote, son of Henry B. and Caroline (Ostdiek) Grote was born Jan. 19, 1898 at Underwood. He was baptized, received his first Communion and was confirmed at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Neola and attended country school. At the age of six or seven years, he moved with his parents to NE. Two years later, they returned to the Neola area.

Feb. 10, 1920 he married Julia Lustgraaf at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Neola in a triple wedding ceremony with Julia's two sisters. Seven children were born to this union. After their marriage, they farmed near Neola until 1935 when they moved to a farm near Portsmouth. In 1955 they retired from farming and moved into Portsmouth, and in 1982 they became residents of Little Flower Haven in Earling. After the death of

his wife Aug. 7, 1986, he continued to reside in the home, and it was there that he died Oct. 12, 1994 at age 96 years, eight months and 23 days. He was a member of St. Mary's Catholic church in Portsmouth and served on the town council and was mayor of Portsmouth from 1960 to 1970. He loved to play the piano and drums and was the oldest member of the Knights of Columbus, Earling Council #1741. He also had served on the Election Board.

In addition to his parents and wife, he was preceded in death by his brothers and sisters - Gerard, Joseph, Mark, Eulalia, Gertrude, Catherine and Raymond; a great-grandson, Nathan Bladt; a great-granddaughter, Stephanie Dawn Grote and a son James Grote in Jan. 1994. He is survived by his children - Fred (Loretta) Grote of Harlan; Robert Grote of Portsmouth; Thomas (Theresa) Grote of Portsmouth; Raphael (Margaret) Grote of Dunlap; LeRoy (Betty) Grote of Earling and Hilary (Peter) Gaul of Melbourne, FL; 48 grandchildren, 93 great-grandchildren and three great-great grandchildren; his sisters and brother, Barbara Walker of Redondo Beach, CA; Henry Grote of Fallbrook, CA; Mildred Moreland of Lancaster, CA and Mary Martin of Scottsbluff, NE and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was concelebrated Oct. 15, 1994 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Portsmouth with Rev. Joseph Kula celebrant. Msgr. Edward Kelly served as the homilist and concelebrating was Rev. Chuck Kottas, Msgr. Michael Schwarte, Rev.

Cornelius Gaul and Arch Bishop Leo Arkfeld. Burial was in St. Mary's cemetery in Portsmouth with LeRoy Grote, Robert Grote, Raphael Grote, Gerald Grote, Lloyd Grote and Thomas Grote casket bearers. Pauley Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.