

## **Bernard "Bernie" Heese, 89**

**Jan. 15, 1928 - Aug. 7, 2018**

**WESTMINSTER, CO** – Bernard "Bernie" Heese was the son of Charles and Wilhelmina (Langenfeld) Heese, and was born in Earling on January 15, 1928. He was baptized and confirmed at St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church, and later was ordained into the Priesthood on June 3, 1953 at St. Ambrose Cathedral in Des Moines. He served at various parishes throughout southwest Iowa until 1971 when he moved to Denver, CO. He was a member of the Knights of Columbus Council 1741 in Earling.



In 1972 he was laicized from the priesthood and thereafter married Judith Campbell of Clarinda.

Bernie attended the University of Colorado, Denver and became a licensed nursing home administrator and managed nursing homes in Colorado and Arizona for 25 years. He was the co-founder of the Colorado Association of Professional Administrators, and two term president of the organization. At the appointment of Governor Richard Lamm, he served on several State Boards that dealt with nursing home administration and state funding for Medicaid. After retiring from nursing home administration, Bernie worked for Sears in Westminster, CO. for 15 years.

Bernie passed away on August 7, 2018 after a long battle with cancer.

Bernie is preceded in death by his wife Judith, parents, Charles and Wilhelmina, and siblings: Mary K. Reischl, Nicholas Heese, and Irma Sullivan.

Bernie is survived by his brother Vince, Sister Leta Heese, his step-daughter Connie Campbell, and her children Lindsay Waggoner (fiancé Kevin) and Kyle Waggoner (spouse Emily); his step-son Kelly Campbell (spouse Maggie Shearon) and children Nicholas and Dustin Holland; as well as many family members and friends.

Bernie will be remembered for his devotion to family and commitment to helping others in need. Bernie's family would like to thank the many individuals in his care team and hospice that ensured his comfort. A Memorial Mass was held on Monday, Aug. 13, 2018 at 11:30 a.m. at Mt. Olivet in Denver, CO, with interment to follow.