

Richard R. Lefeber, 67

Oct. 27, 1932 - Jan. 7, 2000

PORTSMOUTH - Richard Raymond Lefeber, son of Emma (Leinen) and John Lefeber, was born Oct. 27, 1932, on a farm near Portsmouth. He was baptized and confirmed at St. Mary Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church in Portsmouth, and was a lifetime member of the parish. He attended St. Mary's High School in Portsmouth, graduating in 1950. He grew to adulthood on the family farm. In 1953, he entered the United States Army and served his country honorably during the Korean Conflict until 1955.

May 21, 1956, he married Stella Kramer at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Earling. To this union were born six children. He farmed near Portsmouth, and was also employed at Western Iowa Pork for many years retiring from the USDA office in September 1999. He was a member of the St. Mary's Knights of Columbus and the Portsmouth American Legion Post No. 547. He died at Jennie Edmundson Hospital in Co. Bluffs, Jan. 7, 2000, at age 67 years, two months and 11 days.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his grandson, Mason Richard Lefeber, and his brother, Bob Lefeber. Survivors include his wife, Stella of Portsmouth; his children, Sandy Schmitz of Ankeny; Connie (Eric) Miskell of Ottawa, IL; Cheryl (Tom) Snyder of Underwood; Dean (Cindy) of Harlan; Jeff (Mary) of Neola; Janet (Bob) Croghan of Portsmouth; 16 grandchildren; his brothers and sisters, Russell Lefeber (Dorothy) of Harlan; Gene Lefeber (Joanne) of Portsmouth; Ernie Lefeber of Harlan; Margie (Ray) Gorden of Arion; and LaVonne (Paul) Jensen of Co. Bluffs; and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Jan. 10, 2000, at St. Mary Our Lady of Fatima, Portsmouth, with Rev. Paul Bianchi celebrant and Rev. Cornelius Gaul, Rev. Dan Kirby, Rev. Paul Monahan and Rev. Richard Ball concelebrants. Military rites were conducted in St. Mary's Cemetery in Portsmouth, with John Lefeber and Dave Lefeber honorary casket bearers. Casket bearers were Jeff Lefeber, Eric Miskell, Tom Snyder, Ralph Schmitz, Dean Lefeber and Bob Croghan. Pauley Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

