

Robert Pollock, 68

June 15, 1939 - June 15, 2009

DENISON — Robert Raymond

Pollock was born at home in Denison Township on June 15, 1939, to Raymond and Dorothy (Petersen) Pollock. As a young child, Bob enjoyed fishing, helping his dad on the farm driving the tractor and thrashing. Their Model A was the first car he drove. In 1952, at the age of 13, Bob contracted polio and spent six months at St. Joseph's Hospital in Sioux City. The family appreciated the support of the March of Dimes as, during recovery, Bob had a number of surgeries and therapy. When he returned home, and while still on crutches, he started driving the F20 tractor. At that time, he also began raising rabbits with his brother. In 1957, he graduated with the first class of the Ar-We-Va High School. In 1959, Bob entered into the trucking business (Hawley and Pollock Trucking). Later in 1963, he went to work for Hartford Insurance out of Omaha, specializing in livestock. He returned to Vail in 1966 and began the family tractor salvage business. In 1976, Bob purchased his first car crusher and, together with his wife, Mary, continued in the scrap iron business to this day.



September 10, 1976, Bob married Mary Alice (Carlson) of Denison. Together they raised two daughters, Lori Lynn and Lanette Lorelle. Bob had a great passion for restoring antique tractors, which were collected from all over the United States. In fact, he was recognized for having one of the finest collections in the world and often was featured in the tractor publications of writer/photographer, Randy Leffingwell. Bob was diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease in 1991, and faced this illness head-on. Even as the physical limitations set in, he, along with his wife and business partner, Mary, continued on with the business. On January 22, 2008, Bob became a resident of Eventide, though continued to go to the business throughout the week. He was very proud of the leadership his wife brought to the business and knew he had handed it over to her very capable hands. Bob fully enjoyed the role of grandfather, forming a very special relationship with each of his grandchildren. He was also very appreciative of the loyalty of long-term friend and employee, Rick Rasmussen who has been by his side for many years.

Bob was preceded in death by his father, Ray; and his in-laws, Robert and Margaret Carlson. Survivors include his wife, Mary; mother, Dorothy; daughter, Lori and Steve and their children, Brianna, Brooke, and Brandon; daughter, Rev. Lanette and her daughter, Meghan; his brother, Glenn, and a host of relatives and friends.

Funeral services were held at 3 P.M., Saturday, July 18, 2009, at the First United Methodist Church in Denison. Rev. Dr. David Swinton and Rev. Lanette Plambeck officiated the service and graveside rites held at the Crawford Heights Memory Gardens in Denison. Organist, Patti Bekkerus provided the organ music for congregational singing "Precious Lord, Take My Hand." Eldon Hardekopf sang "Just A Closer Walk With Thee" and "On Eagle's Wings." Those serving as pallbearers were: Rick Rasmussen, Meghan Plambeck, Brianna Nelson, Brandon Nelson, Brooke Nelson and Steve Nelson. Pallbearers were: Calvin Stammer, Steve

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McCollough, Rick Dammann, Kenneth Hansen, Joe Odendahl, John Vilmain, Tony Dieter and Marty Lauer. The family invited everyone to return to the church and join them in fellowship and lunch catered by Staley's Food Service and served by the Methodist Women.

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