

Jim Schechinger, 54

WESTPHALIA - James Lawrence Schechinger, son of Michael and Annabel (Weihs) Schechinger was born Oct. 16, 1935, on a farm near Westphalia. He died Jan. 22, 1990 at Myrtue Memorial Hospital in Harlan at age 54 years, three months and six days. He was baptized and confirmed at St. Boniface Catholic Church in Westphalia, and was a lifetime member of the church. His father died when he was eight years old and he and his two brothers did the farming while attending St. Boniface School. After he graduated in 1953, he continued to help on the farm. Nov. 15, 1956, he entered the U.S. Marine Corps., serving his country in several locations in the South Pacific. After his honorable discharge on March 14, 1958, he returned to the Westphalia area.

Jan. 14, 1961, he married Kathryn Stangl at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Neola. Five children were born to this union. After their marriage, he continued to farm near Westphalia.

In addition to being a member of St. Boniface Catholic Church, he served on the parish council. He was named Pork Producer of the year in 1979, and was a Master Corn Grover of Shelby county. He was a member of the board of Farmers Co-op; a school board member at St. Michael's school in Harlan; a member of the Cattlemen's Association and a board member of Farmers Mutual Telephone Co. He had also been an active 4-H leader and a member of the Knights of Columbus.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a sister, Alice Schomers; a brother, Gerald Schechinger and his grandfather, Frank Weihs. He is survived by his wife, Kathryn of Westphalia; two daughters, Patricia Snyder of Bellevue, IL., and Carol Schechinger of Misawa Air Force Base, Japan; three sons, Jay, Kenny and Dave all of Westphalia; two brothers, Elmer and Michael both of Westphalia; four sisters, Arlene (Mrs Elmer) Schwery and Agnes (Mrs Joe Wehr both of Westphalia; Jane (Mrs Michael) of Hiram, GA., and Joyce (Mrs Stan) Ulmer of Harlan; nieces, nephews and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was concelebrated Jan. 26, 1990 at St. Boniface Catholic Church in Westphalia with Rev. Paul Bianchi, Rev. Art McCann, The Rev. Richard Gubbels and Msgr. O.W. Koester, concelebrating. Military rites were conducted at St. Boniface cemetery by the Color Guard, U.S. Marine Corps., Inspector & Instructor Staff, Omaha, NE. Bob Groat, Bill Wetmore and David Groat served as honorary casketbearers. Serving as casketbearers were Ed Wehr, Lynn Schwery, Don Schomers, Dave Schomers, James Ragsdale, Ray Schechinger, John C. Schechinger and Michael Schechinger. Pauley Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.