

## Alvin W. Schmitz, 90

Nov. 28, 1905 - Sept. 8, 1996

**WESTPHALIA** - Alvin W. Schmitz, son of John H. and Anna Klepper Schmitz, was born Nov. 28, 1905, on a farm southwest of Westphalia. He was the oldest of a family of seven children. He attended St. Boniface School in Westphalia and helped his father on the farm for a number of years. During the winter months he attended classes in Automotive Mechanics at Iowa State University, Ames. He worked at Joe Kobold's Garage in Earling, for two years but took off during the winter months to return to classes. After working a full year, he returned to Westphalia, starting his own business known as Schmitz Garage.

Nov. 26, 1934, he married Mathilda (Til) Mumm in St. Paul's Mission in Marty, SD. To this union three children were born. Smitty, as he was called, was a member of St. Boniface Church in Westphalia. He was a member of the Knights of Columbus Earling Council No. 1741. He was in business in Westphalia for 43 years as owner-operator of the Schmitz Garage. Til and Smitty celebrated their 60th anniversary in 1994. He became a resident of Little Flower Haven July of 1990, and it was there he died Sept. 8, 1996, at age 90 years, nine months and 11 days. He was currently the oldest living male resident of Westphalia.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brothers, Alphons Schmitz, Alex Schmitz, Cyril Schmitz, and his sister, Fern Schwarte. Surviving are his wife, Mathilda (Til) of Westphalia; his children, Margaret Ann (Margie) (Wilfred F.) Loebig Jr. of St. Charles, IL; Maxine (Fran) (Neil) Shaver of Co. Bluffs and John J. Schmitz (Millie) of Kingman, AZ; his brother, Verner Schmitz (Helen) of Harlan; and his sister, Valeria Ann Wilke of Omaha, NE; and Valeria's daughters, Beverly (Martin) Guenette and Rene (Robert) Hamor all of Omaha; William Schwarte, husband of the late Fern Schwarte of Panama; 18 grandchildren, four great grandchildren and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was concelebrated Sept. 11, 1996, at St. Boniface Catholic Church in Westphalia with Rev. Thomas Crowley celebrant and Rev. Paul Bianchi concelebrating. Burial was in St. Boniface Cemetery with Robert Hamor, Martin Guenette, Blaise Loebig, Joseph Shaver, Thomas Schmitz and Daniel Shaver casket bearers. Pauley Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.