

Jim Sonderman, 65 ✓

Dec. 24, 1930 - June 14, 1996

DEFIANCE - James "Jim" Edward Sonderman, son of Joseph Francis and Kathryn Josephine Wageman Sonderman was born Dec. 24, 1930 on the family farm south of Defiance. He was baptized, made his first communion and was confirmed at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Defiance. He attended country school and St. Paul's School in Defiance. He remained single and lived with his parents on the family farm south of Defiance until 1968 when they moved to Harlan for several years before moving to Defiance where he helped care for his father who was in failing health. He and his mother continued living together after his father's death until Jan. of 1991 when his mother entered the Baptist Memorial Home. He was a farm laborer, mowed lawns and did snow removal. March 9, 1996 he was presented the American Red Cross Distinguished Service Award. He became a resident of the Baptist Memorial Home Nov. 1, 1995 after battling cancer for nine months. It was there that he died June 14, 1996 at age 65 years, five months and 21 days.

In addition to his father, he was preceded in death by his brother Harry Sonderman and sister-in-law Gemma Sonderman, Godchild Dean Kloewer, two nephews Gaylen Sonderman and Ron Woerdehoff. Surviving are his mother Kathryn Sonderman, a Baptist Home resident in Harlan; his brothers and sisters Marcy (Earl) Powers of Defiance; Pearl (Harold) Schulte of Westphalia; Mickey (Don) Kloewer of Defiance; Alice (Richard) Kloewer of Englewood, CO; George Sonderman (Dian) of Defiance; Leo Sonderman (Lois) of Defiance; and Jane (Gerald) Tremel of Dunlap; his sister-in-law Marilyn Sonderman of Portsmouth; thirty-five nieces and nephews, fifty-one grand nieces and nephews and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was concelebrated June 17, 1996 at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Defiance with Rev. Thomas Crowley celebrant and Rev. Eugene Klein, Msgr. Edward Kelly and Rev. Paul Bianchi concelebrating. Burial was in Sts. Peter and Paul cemetery in Defiance with Gary Schulte, Guyle Sonderman, Todd Tremel, Frank Powers, Denny Kloewer, Rob Kloewer, Troy Sonderman and Jeff Sonderman casket bearers. Pauley Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.