

Alfred Stessman, 88

EARLING — Alfred F. Stessman, son of Theodore and Bertha (Huetteman) Stessman was born on Sept. 13, 1898, in Detroit, MI. He died on April 3, 1987, at the Little Flower Haven, at age 88 years, six months and 21 days. He was baptized in the Catholic Church in Detroit. At the age of six months, he moved with his family to Earling. In 1908, the family moved to a farm near Panama. He was confirmed and received his First Communion in St. Mary's Catholic church in Panama. He attended school in Panama, and grew to adulthood on his parents' farm.

On Feb. 26, 1924, he married Beatrice Leuschen at St. Mary's Catholic church in Panama. Five children were born to this union. After their marriage, they farmed near Panama until 1950, when he retired due to ill health. He continued to live on the farm until 1985, when he became a resident of the Little Flower Haven. He was a member of St. Mary's Catholic church in Panama.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a grandson; two brothers, Adolph and Frederick; and one sister, Eleanore. He is survived by his wife, Beatrice of the Little Flower Haven; daughters, Bernice (Mrs Gerald) Gaul of Earling; Margaret (Mrs James J.) Walsh of Mo. Valley; and Ethel (Mrs Alvin) Heller of Portsmouth; two sons, Alvin of Panama and William J. of Charlotte, N.C.; 24 grandchildren; 26 great grandchildren; five sisters, Antonette (Mrs Charles) Croghan of Montebello, CA.; Sr. Theonilla of Atchison, KS.; Frances Tamisiea of Omaha, NE.; Agnes Herbst of Panama and Genevieve (Mrs Franklin) Oppold of Panama; three brothers, Ted of Omaha; Leo of Mo. Valley; and Robert of Des Moines; nieces and nephews and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was con-celebrated April 6, 1987 at St. Mary's Catholic church in Panama with Rev. Lawrence Beeson as the celebrant and Rev. Cornelius Gaul, Rev. Hilary Gaul, Rev. Gerald Stessman and Rev. LaVern Wingert as the concelebrants. Burial was in St. Mary's cemetery with John Heller, Dennis Walsh, Pat Stessman, Jeff Gaul, Rick Gaul and Jim Stessman serving as casketbearers. Pauley Funeral Home in Harlan was in charge of arrangements.