

Anthony Schaben, 71

Feb. 24, 1931 - Nov. 9, 2002

DEFIANCE — Anthony Joseph Schaben, son of Anton P. and Edith (Kobold) Schaben, was born Feb. 24, 1931, in Earling. He was baptized at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Earling and was confirmed at St. Peter's Church in Defiance. He attended country school before attending St. Paul's High School in Defiance, where he graduated with the class of 1949. He was also affectionately known to friends and family as "Junior".

April 17, 1952, he married Ella Mae Zimmerman at St. Mary Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church in Portsmouth. Nine children were born to this union. After their marriage, they farmed six miles northwest of Defiance and this is where they lived until 1993 when they moved to Defiance and became members of St. Peter's Catholic Church. While farming in this area, Tony and his family were members of St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Buck Grove. In 1965, he became a sales representative for the Moorman Manufacturing Company until his retirement in 1985. After retirement, they started Ellie Mae's Popcorn Company. In 1995, Tony and Ella Mae sold the popcorn manufacturing plant to Snappy Popcorn where they continued to run the operation until 1997. After selling Ellie Mae's Popcorn, both Tony and Ella Mae retired for two years before starting to work at Variety Distributor's in Harlan. And this has been his employment until the time of his death. He was also a 3rd Degree Member of the Earling Council No. 1741, Knights of Columbus. He died Nov. 9, 2002, at the Creighton University Hospital in Omaha, NE, at age 71 years, eight months and 16 days.

In addition to his parents, Tony was preceded in death by his daughter, Marie Barbara Schaben; his brother, Robert Schaben; and his half-brother, Mal Schaben. He is survived by his wife, Ella Mae Schaben of Defiance; his children, Steve Schaben (Karen) of Denison; Rick Schaben (Laurie) of Harlan; June Schaben of Harlan; Randy Schaben of Carroll; Timothy Schaben of Carroll; Neil Schaben (Barbara) of Denison; Jeanne (Dick) Bornhoft of Manilla; Pat Schaben of Carroll; 10 grandchildren; five great grandchildren; his sister and brother, Ruth (Bob) Weis of Defiance; Edwin Schaben (Rita) of Panama; half-brothers and sisters, Bernard Schaben of Omaha, NE; Paul Schaben (Jane) of Carroll; Mary Kay (Marvin) Campbell of Denison; Dan Schaben of Carroll; Rose (Richard) Dittmer of Columbia, MO; Mike Schaben (Jeannie) of Defiance; Henry Schaben (Colleen) of Omaha, NE; and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Nov. 12, 2002, at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Defiance, with the Rev. Michael Berner celebrant. Burial was in Sts. Peter and Paul Cemetery in Defiance, with Steve Schaben, Rick Schaben, Randy Schaben, Timothy Schaben, Neil Schaben and Pat Schaben casket bearers. Pauley Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

