

## Michael Schechinger, 74

Aug. 10, 1938 - Feb. 23, 2013

**WESTPHALIA** — Michael Raymond Schechinger was born on August 10, 1938 to Michael P. and Annabel (Weihs) Schechinger in Westphalia. He was baptized and confirmed at St. Boniface Catholic Church and graduated from St. Boniface Catholic School with the Class of 1956.

November 27, 1958, Mike was united in marriage to Judy Langenfeld. They became parents to six children: Michael, Susan, Bonnie, Bob, Roger, and Sherie. Mike owned and operated Farmachine Maintenance Company which included a painting and sandblasting business for over twenty years. He was also a salesman for Schechinger Seeds and Stine Seed Company for over twenty-five years and won numerous awards including Salesman of the Year.



Mike was married to Mary Holler on April 8, 1989 in Walker, and added two step-children to his family: Linda and John. Mike really enjoyed his yard work and landscaping. He enjoyed cooking and grilling and was always open to entertaining friends or hosting family gatherings. He loved to spend time with his grandchildren and would organize a yearly Easter egg hunt for them. He also looked forward to setting up his Christmas light display every year. He loved inventing and creating things and was considered the "Best Fixit Grandpa Ever" by his grandkids. He was quite a "professional" amateur photographer, an animal lover and enjoyed bird watching. Mike spent the majority of his life as a volunteer fireman including serving as Fire Chief for the Westphalia Volunteer Fire Department and President of the Iowa Firefighter's Association. He acted as a lobbyist on behalf of firefighters across the state. He enjoyed playing and coaching baseball, was a member of the Westphalia Athletic Club Association and their Baseball Hall of Fame. Mike died at his home on Saturday, February 23, 2013 having attained the age of seventy-four years, six months, and thirteen days.

Mike was preceded in death by his parents, sisters Alice Schomers and Arlene Schwery, and brothers Elmer, Jim, and Jerry. He is survived by his wife Mary Schechinger of Westphalia; children: Michael Schechinger and his wife Karen of Grimes, Susan Schechinger and her friend Ron Yockey of Kirkman, Bonnie and her husband Tony Cairney of Westphalia, Bob Schechinger and his wife Carol of Treynor, Roger Schechinger of Menifee, CA, and Sherie and her husband Steve Hollander of Glenwood; step-daughter Linda and her husband Kevin Gaul and step-son John Holler and his wife Vicki all of Waterloo; twenty-four grandchildren; fourteen great-grandchildren; sisters Agnes Wehr of Westphalia, Jane Ragsdale of Hiram, GA, and Joyce and her husband Stan Ulmer of Harlan; sisters-in-law Margaret Schechinger and Kay Schechinger both of Harlan; other family members and many friends.

Rev. John Dorton celebrated the 10:00 a.m. Mass of Christian Burial on Thursday, February 28, 2013 at St. Boniface Catholic Church in Westphalia. Music was provided by Gloria Schmitz, Jan

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Rau, and guitarist Konnie Schechinger. Mike's grandchildren and great-grandchildren were honorary casket bearers. Serving as casket bearers were Eddie Goetzinger, Justin Schechinger, Ronnie Schechinger, Kelly Schwery, John Henschel, Bruce Goesser, Lynn Schmitz, and Tony Goetz. Interment was held at St. Boniface Cemetery in Westphalia.

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