

## Gail Schwarte, 62

April 4, 1949 - Nov. 3, 2011

**EARLING** — Gail Wilfred Schwarte, the son of Henry Rudolph and Ella Marie (Frank) Schwarte, was born on April 4, 1949, west of Earling. He was baptized and confirmed at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Earling, and attended St. Joseph Catholic School; he graduated in 1967. Following graduation, Gail attended one year of trade school at Universal Trade in Omaha, NE, where he studied Auto Mechanics. Gail was drafted into the U.S. Army, and he served nine months in Vietnam. After his discharge, he worked at Wilwerding Auto Craft. He later purchased the business and called it Schwarte Auto



Craft, which he operated until 2004. Gail and Kelly opened S & S Car Wash in Earling in 2007. In 1975, Gail earned his pilot's license, and at one time owned his own airplane. He later flew for several small carriers. In 1987, he began flying for Northwest Airlines, and was currently flying for Delta Airlines. Throughout his career, Gail had worked to attain the rank of captain, and he flew several models and sizes of aircraft. He had recently flown to Mexico, Canada, and the Caribbean. Gail was a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Earling. He was a Third Degree Knight of Columbus Council #1741. Gail's life changed when his grandchildren were born, and they became the center of his life. They called him "AMPA", and he was the greatest grandpa ever. A common man of many interests and projects, he enjoyed carpentry, building, auto body painting, and was a skilled welder. Gail liked working on classic cars and antique International Farmall tractors and riding his motorcycle. Gail W. Schwarte died on Thursday, November 3, 2011, at his home in Earling, at the age of 62 years, 6 months, and 30 days.

Gail was preceded in death by his parents; one son, Tracy Schwarte; and one granddaughter, Paige Schwarte. He is survived by his special friend, Anita Buckley of Earling; one son, Kelly (Tina) Schwarte of Earling; three grandchildren, Febbee Schwarte, Parker Schwarte, and Pyper Schwarte; and other relatives and friends.

Mass of Christian Burial was held on Tuesday, November 8, 2011, at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Earling, with Father Chris Fontanini and Father Larry Hoffmann celebrating. Mary Wilwerding and Tyler Gubbels were the musicians. Serving as casket bearers were Jim Gaul, Phil Blum, Melvin Bruck, Allen Bruck, Steve Havens, and Gerald

**BURMEISTER~  
JOHANNSEN**  
FUNERAL HOME

Kohles. Burial was in the St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery in Earling, with military rites by the American Legion Post #615. Condolences may be left online at [www.burmeisterjohannsen.com](http://www.burmeisterjohannsen.com).

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