

Neil Sternberg, 88

March 15, 1914 - Dec. 28, 2002

PORTSMOUTH – Neil John Sternberg was born to George John and Mary Anne (Petsche) Sternberg March 15, 1914, at Defiance. He was baptized and confirmed at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Defiance, and attended grade school and high school at St. Paul's Catholic School in Defiance.

Nov. 11, 1937, he married Helen Gertrude Blum at St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church in Panama. To this union four children were born. During the early 1940's they lived in Audubon. They then moved to rural Panama and farmed there until 1946, purchasing a farm near Portsmouth. Neil retired in 1980, remaining on the farm until January 2001, when he became a resident of Elm Crest Retirement Community. In addition to farming, he was a salesman for Raleigh Products and sales manager for Vigortone Feeds. He was a member of St. Mary Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church in Portsmouth, Knights of Columbus Earling Council No. 1741 of Earling and Toastmasters Club. Neil died Dec. 28, 2002, at Myrtue Memorial Hospital at age 88 years, nine months and 14 days.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, Helen, June 3, 1993; son, Darrell Sternberg Dec. 10, 1997, and sisters and brothers, William and Malvern Sternberg and Loretta Kuhl, Bonnie Knight, Mildred Beohmerle and Tharsille Delfs. He is survived by his children, David Sternberg (Rose) of Shelby; Neil Sternberg, Jr. of Missouri Valley; and Sandra (Robert) Mraule of Salinas, CA; seven grandchildren; eight great grandchildren; sister, Ella Mae Engel of Manilla; daughter-in-law, Gladys Sternberg of Omaha, NE; nieces and nephews and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Dec. 31, 2002, at St. Mary Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church in Portsmouth, with Rev. Paul Bianchi celebrant. Burial was in St. Mary's Cemetery in Portsmouth, with Marvin Leinen, Bud Chamberlain, Gerry Huebert, Don Springman and Joe Springman honorary casket bearers. Casket bearers were Matt Sternberg, Marc Sternberg, Jeff Sternberg, Don Chamberlain, Matt Mraule and Douglas A. Engel. Pauley Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

