

Francis Wise, 63

Jan. 30, 1942 - Dec. 8, 2005

AVOCA — Francis P. Wise was born Jan. 30, 1942, in Pleasant Township, Pottawattamie County, son of Paul and Beatrice Gross Wise. He attended Avoca School, where he participated in football, basketball, track, baseball and Glee Club. He belonged to the Pleasant Record Busters. He graduated from Avoca High School in 1959. After graduating from high school, he went to the Army Reserves for six months and then returned to the family farm.

Francis married Connie Turk April 14, 1962, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Avoca. They were the proud parents of four children, Michele, Mark, Renee and Lynette. They raised their children on the family farm outside of Avoca. He was a lifelong farmer. He farmed with his brother, George; son, Mark; and nephew, Paul. He was a lifelong member of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Avoca, where he was an altar boy, and participated in many volunteer activities. He was also a member of the American Legion. He died Dec. 8, 2005, at Immanuel Alegant in Omaha, NE, at age 63.

Francis is preceded in death by his parents and brothers, Michael and George Wise. He is survived by his wife, Connie of Avoca; his children, Michele (Gene) Pauley of Avoca; Mark Wise of Shelby; Renee (Clark) Price of Shelby; and Lynette (Dan) Nelsen of Walnut; his grandchildren, Ashley Adams, Danielle Adams, Nicholas Adams, Kyle Bauerkemper, Gabe Pauley, Steven Wise, Amber Price, Cassie Price, William Price, Dustin Nelsen, Dakota Nelsen, Dane Nelsen, Sidney Nelsen and Kyley Nelsen; his sisters, Bernadine Burley of Omaha, NE; Theota (Lonn) Nelsen; Carolyn (Dennis) Piittmann; Margie (James) Szadis, all of Avoca; Paul (Gary) Randeris of Audubon; sister-in-law, Charlotte Wise of Avoca; nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Dec. 12, 2005, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Avoca with Father John Frost officiating. Burial was in the Graceland Cemetery. Honorary casket bearers were Dane Nelsen, Kyle Bauerkemper, Matthew Szadis, Dakota Nelsen, Gabe Pauley, Michael Szadis, William Price, Walter Nelsen and Jason Randeris. Casket bearers were Dustin Nelsen, Robert Burley, Steven Wise, Edward Piittmann, Bill Burley, Nicholas Adams and Paul Wise. Knutson Family Chapel in charge of arrangements.