

The Life Story of --

Joseph Thielen, Sr., 93

Joseph Thielen, Sr., son of John and Clara Kuhl Thielen, was born April 24, 1881 on a farm near Westphalia in Shelby, Ia. He died at Myrtue Memorial hospital on May 2, 1974, just 8 days after his 93rd birthday. On Nov. 17, 1903 he married Madgalena Kenkel at St. Joseph's church in Earling. Four sons and one daughter were born to this union. Mr and Mrs Thielen farmed in the Panama community until 1940 when they moved into Harlan. Mr Thielen has been a member of St. Michael's church since moving to Harlan. After the death of Mrs Thielen in Nov. of 1956, Mr Thielen continued to live in Harlan. He later became a resident of a nursing home in Avoca. The last ten years he has lived at the Little Flower Haven in Earling.

In addition to his wife, he was preceded in death by three sons - John, Ray and Bernie Thielen; two brothers - Charles and John Thielen; and two sisters - Mrs Clara Pauley and Mrs Elizabeth Leuschen. He is survived by his daughter, Clara (Mrs Walter Kelley) of Harlan; one son - Joseph Thielen, Jr. of Atlantic; 31 grandchildren; 87 great grandchildren and 14 great great grandchildren; by one brother - Louis J. Thielen of Defiance; three sisters - Mrs Barbara Munchrath of Defiance, Mrs Josephine Schomer of Panama and Mrs Frances Nollen of Defiance; by his nieces and nephews; and other relatives.

A Concelebrated Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at St. Michael's church in Harlan on Monday, May 6, 1974 with Rev Anthony J. Palmer as celebrant and Rev Edward R. Kelly as concelebrant.

Burial was in the Harlan cemetery with Tom Kelley, Marvin Ring, Gerald Thielen, Harold Thielen, Engene Thielen and Kenneth Thielen serving as pallbearers. The Pauley Home for Funerals of Harlan was in charge of funeral arrangements.