

Walter Staiert, Jr., 60

August 10, 1951 - May 12, 2012

ELK HORN — Walter Bernard Staiert, Jr. son of Walter, Sr. and Ella Mae (Loeffelholz) Staiert, was born on August 10, 1951, in Carroll. He was baptized and confirmed at St. Francis Catholic Church in Maple River, and attended Maple River Country School and Carroll Kuemper before moving with his family to the Elk Horn area in 1967. Walt graduated from Elk Horn-Kimballton High School with the Class of 1969. After high school, Walt joined the Army Reserve based in Sac City.

August 14, 1976, Walt was united in marriage to Laurie Goodner at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Harlan. Two children were born to this union: Mark and Krista. After their wedding, Walt and Laurie made their home on the family farm where Walt helped his father with the farming operation. Walt was a natural farmer and began helping his father on the farm at a very young age. He had a great love for the land and enjoyed spending time outside. When Walt was not busy working on the farm, he enjoyed playing slow-pitch softball, fishing, playing cards, and spending time with his family. Walt was very active in his children's lives and coached several of Mark and Krista's various sports teams. If he was not coaching the team, he could be found in the stands cheering them on. He was always there for his family offering advice, guidance, and support. Walt's family never questioned his love for them; his love was a constant that could always be counted on. Walt also was a true friend and would do anything for anyone, often without having to be asked. Walt was the rock of his family and will be truly missed by all. Walt was diagnosed with Stage 4 Lung Cancer on April 9, 2012. This news was a huge shock to his entire family as Walt was not a smoker but rather it was from breathing in harsh chemicals and dust from working on the farm. Walt died on Saturday, May 12, 2012 at Methodist Hospital in Omaha, NE, having attained the age of sixty years, nine months, and two days.

Walt is preceded in death by his father; brother Joseph; sister Joni; parents-in-law Rex and Betty Goodner; brothers-in-law Rodney and Billy Goodner; step-mother-in-law Dixie Goodner; and step-brother-in-law Tim McKeighan. He is survived by his wife Laurie Staiert of Elk Horn; son Mark Staiert of Des Moines; daughter Krista and her husband Doug Allen of Elk Horn; mother Ella Mae Staiert of Harlan; brothers and sisters: Ronald Staiert and his wife Janice of Walnut, Robert Staiert and his wife Linda of Topeka, KS, Duane Staiert and his wife Celine of Omaha, NE, Ralph Staiert and his wife Wendy of Villa Ridge, MO, Marie and her husband Mike Wiederin of Harlan, Jim Staiert and his wife Ana of Springfield, VA, and Jeanne and her husband Mark Eastman of Omaha, NE; step-sister-in-law Brenda and her husband Stan Peterson of Fort Atkinson, WI; step-brother-in-law Terry McKeighan and his wife Nancy of Tualatin, OR; his special brother-in-law and sister-in-law Dan and Susan Fowler of Harlan;



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many nieces and nephews; other family members and many friends.

Rev. John Frost celebrated the 11:00 a.m. Mass of Christian Burial on Thursday, May 17, 2012 at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Harlan. Serving as casket bearers were Dave Schomers, Don Schomers, Kyle Schomers, Mike Wiederin, Mark Eastman, and Dave Staiert. Interment was held at the Harlan Cemetery.

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