

## Martin Christian "Chris" Blum, 92

Oct. 22, 1901 - Feb. 5, 1994

**Panama** - Martin Christian Blum, son of Mike and Catherine (Clemens) Blum was born Oct. 22, 1901 at Westphalia on a farm east of town. He died Feb. 5, 1994 at the Myrtue Memorial Hospital in Harlan at age 92 years, 3 months and 14 days. He was baptized and confirmed at St. Boniface Church in Westphalia. At the age of 9 the family moved to Panama to a farm which was the family home place.

Sept. 28, 1926, he married Eleanora Susanna (Nora) Pauley at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Panama. Eleven children were born to this union. After their marriage, they farmed south of Panama and in 1940 they purchased a farm west of Panama, where they lived and farmed until moving into Panama April 1, 1979. In September of 1976, they celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Panama. They were the first couple to have their marriage banns published by Msgr. M.B. Schiltz at St. Mary's. They were also honored to have him give them their special Golden Wedding Blessing. In September 1993 they celebrated their 67th wedding anniversary. He was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Panama. He had a hobby of making rosaries for the missions, averaging 300 to 400 rosaries a year for the past 20 years. John Stinn taught him during a parish mission at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Panama around 1965.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife Nora, by a daughter Mary Ann, five brothers, Joseph, Peter, Mike, Ben and John, eight sisters, Kate, Anna, Sr. Margaret, Sr. Antilia, Clara, Sophie, Lena, Mary and two infants. He is survived by four sons, Vernon Blum of Harlan, Chris Jr. (Pat) Blum of Portsmouth, Charles Blum of Panama, and Emil Blum of Omaha, NE, six daughters, Virginia (Louis) Wingert of Panama, Sr. Joyce Blum of F.S.P.A. of Tucson, AZ, Alice (Jerry) Zimmerman of Minden, Jean (LeRoy) Heese of Defiance, Judy (Fred) Clark of Omaha, and Audrey (Dennis) Smith of Plattsmouth, NE, 33 grandchildren, 33 great grandchildren, nieces, nephews and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Feb. 8, 1994 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Panama with Rev. Don Daleke celebrant and Rev. LaVern Wingert and Rev. Robert Shoemann concelebrating. Burial was in St. Mary's cemetery in Panama with grandsons serving as casket bearers. Pauley Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.