



Kenneth Diersen

November 17, 1924 - May 7, 2011

Kenneth Joseph Diersen, age 86, of Schaller, died at his home on Saturday, May 7, 2011. Kenneth was born November 17, 1924. He was the son of Herman and Dorothy (Alderson) Diersen. He attended rural school near his home. Kenneth and Marie Veit were married at St. Martin's Catholic Church in Odebolt, Iowa on January 3, 1946. They lived in a small house on the Diersen family farm where Kenneth farmed with his dad until 1953. Kenneth was drafted into the army in 1946. He served as part of the occupational forces of World War II in Korea. He was honorably discharged in 1947. In 1953 Kenneth and Marie moved to their farm south of Schaller where he lived the rest of his life. This had earlier been the farm and home of Kenneth's grandparents, Joseph and Sarah Alderson. Kenneth took pride in the fact this farm had been in the family for over 100 years. Kenneth and Marie are the parents of six children: Philip (Susan Robinson), Zane (Gerda Zonneveld), Paula Kraut, Denise (Monte) Wiese, Diane (Joseph) Schaepe, and Mark Diersen. They have seventeen grandchildren and twenty-eight great-grandchildren. Ken is survived by Marie, his wife of 65 years, and his descendents. He was preceded in death by his parents; infant twin sisters, Helen and Hazel; his brother, Earl; his grandson, Levi Diersen; and Lori Diersen, wife of his son Mark. Kenneth was a long-time member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Schaller. He was part of a Pinochle card group with other members from the church. Kenneth enjoyed big game hunting with his life-long friend and brother-in-law, Paul Veit. He also spent a lot of time reading. Kenneth enjoyed going on fishing trips with his wife to Canada and Minnesota. He created many fond memories while playing cards with his grandchildren and other family members. He enjoyed visiting and took a great interest in the lives of others.