

Earl James Sullivan, 83



Earl James Sullivan, 83, of Brooklyn, died on September 17, 2003, at Brooklyn Community Estates, of a lengthy illness.

Funeral services were held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 20, at St. Bridget Catholic Church in Victor. Burial was at Mount Olivet Cemetery in Waterloo. Smith Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Earl James Sullivan was born on February 11, 1920, in Waukon, the seventh of ten children born to Joseph and Catherine Sullivan. Earl grew up in northeast Iowa near the Mississippi River. When he was 14, Earl and his brother, Leo, hopped a freight train and rode to South Dakota looking for work. Earl joined the Navy during World War II and served in the Pacific theater for four years. Earl married Elsa Schwerin

on Sept. 10, 1946. They made their home in Waterloo/Cedar Falls for 51 years, during which time Earl worked at John Deere for 37 years. Earl was a member of the Knights of Columbus, the American Legion and St. Bridget Catholic Church.

Earl was an avid sportsman and enjoyed hunting, fishing, and attending ball games. Earl was a skilled carpenter and kept busy doing projects for his family. After his retirement, Earl and Elsa helped Pat on the farm, and they were active in supporting their grandchildren in sports and school activities.

He is survived by his wife, Elsa Sullivan; his son, Michael Sullivan and his wife, Georgia of Grand Rapids, Mich.; his son, Patrick and his wife, Rose of Victor; his sister, Rita Craker of Dallas, Texas; five grandchildren: three great-grandchildren; and two future great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, four brothers and four sisters.

BC - SEPT. 24, 2003