



Ernest Rach

July 16, 1919 - May 21, 2008

Funeral services for Ernest "Ernie" Rach were held on Saturday, May 24, 2008 at the Immanuel Lutheran Church located at Bartlett Township, rural Verndale with Reverend Al Jeske presiding. Ernie passed away on Wednesday, May 21, 2008 at the Fair Oaks Lodge in Wadena at the age of 88 years. Ernest Henry Rach was born on July 16, 1919 at home in Bartlett Township to Reinhardt and Lydia (Grewe) Rach. He attended country schools and helped on the family farm. He was united in marriage with Bernice Helen Baumgartner on November 12, 1950 at St. John's Lutheran Church in Wadena. Ernie loved farming. Early in their marriage, he and Bernice headed west to California and Washington and, after one winter, Ernie decided Bartlett Township on the farm was where he wanted to be and spent the next 47 years there. Even in retirement after they moved into Bertha, he maintained a large garden and provided squash and other fruits of his labor to the community. Ernie was a member of the American Dairy Association, the Farm Bureau, Men's Club and the DHIA. He enjoyed playing cards and visiting with friends. He was a member of his church dartball league, the Bertha Horseshoe League and several bowling leagues over the years. Ernie was preceded in death by his parents Reinhardt and Lydia Rach; brothers Walter, Harry Sr., Melvin, Reinhardt Jr. (Bud), Norman, Lawrence and Lester; sisters Eleanor Gaugert and Sylvia Zacharias. He is survived by his wife Bernice of Bertha; brother Orville (Joyce) of Verndale; brother-in-law Alvin Zacharias of Wadena; sisters-in-law Lucille Rach of Wadena and Glenda (Jim) Kohonen of Bertha;

and many nieces and nephews. Pallbearers were Bradley Rach, Bruce Rach, Harry Rach Jr., Steven Gaugert, Gary Zacharias and Joe Ostrowski. Interment was in the Immanuel Lutheran Cemetery at Bartlett Township.