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03/05/2013 - Arnold R. "Arnie" Engel



Mass of Christian Burial for Arnold R. "Arnie" Engel, age 83, will be Tuesday, March 5th at 10:00 a.m. at Holy Rosary Catholic Church with Father Lou Nollette officiating.

Inurnment with military honors will be in the Nebraska Veterans Cemetery at Alliance.

Wake services will be Monday, March 4th, at 7:00 p.m. at the church.

Memorials may be given to Holy Rosary Church, 1104 Cheyenne Ave, Alliance, NE 69301, Prairie Haven Hospice, 2409 Box Butte Ave., Alliance or the Veterans State Cemetery at Alliance Foundation, P.O. Box 902, Alliance, NE, 69301.

Arnold R. "Arnie" Engel died Friday, March 1st, 2013 at Good Samaritan Health Care Center in Alliance.

Arnie Engel was born at Hemingford, NE on April 17, 1929 to John and Katie (Rohde) Engel. He graduated from Chadron High School in 1946. Prior to graduation he played the saxophone in local and traveling dance bands. He enlisted in the Air Force in May 1946 at age 17. He was stationed in Japan for 28 months and then at Offutt Air Base where he served as a radio operator on a VIP crew that flew Gen. Curtis LeMay, commander of Offutt at the time, around the world on missions in post World War II and the Korean War. He logged over 5000 hours of flight time during his service career. He was honorably discharged in January 1954 and was a veteran of World War II and the Korean War.

He married Emeline Wielgus on June 6, 1950 in North Bend, NE. After his military service he was Vice-President of First National Bank in Chadron before moving to Alliance in 1971 where he worked as an agent for State Farm Insurance. After his retirement from State Farm he worked as a real estate agent. Arnie's favorite pastime was fishing and he spent many hours on the lake with his two boys and his brother-in-law Gus.

He is preceded in death by his parents, brothers Harold and Paul and two infant sisters.

He is survived by his wife Emmy, children, Kathy Baumann of Scottsdale, AZ, Julie Graham (Pete) of Denver, CO, Steve (Lisa) of Highlands Ranch, CO, Dr. John (Gina) of Omaha, NE and Janet Belisle (Dan) of San Antonio, TX, his grandchildren, Chris (Nita) of Denver, CO, Kelli (Tara) of Baton Rouge, LA, Erin (Joaquin) of New York City, NY, Jennifer and Jeff of Omaha, NE, Lauren, Emily and Katie of San Antonio, TX, and Erik and Matthew of Highlands Ranch, CO and his great-grandchildren, Ava, Jack, Will, and Maddox.

Online condolences may be left at www.batesgould.com

Bates-Gould Funeral Home of Alliance, NE is in charge of arrangements.