

Michael Hannon



Michael Patrick Hannon was always proud of his Irish name. Mike was born to Michael Patrick Sr. and Brigett Hannon on July 6, 1903. Mike grew up with his eight brothers on a farm west of Wood River, which his parents purchased in 1893. Although household chores were often delegated to daughters or the youngest son, many of these fell on Mike's shoulders as his health was rather frail as a child. Mike of ten told stories of peeling a five gallon bucket of potatoes for the family dinner, only hoping to have some left over for supper.

After graduating from the Wood River High School Mike and his brother, Howard, lived on the family farm with their parents. Mike's primary responsibilities included farming and taking care of Black

Angus cattle.

Mike married Elaine (Ullstrom) Luehr in' 1968, and was delighted to quickly gain a family, i.e., two married step-sons and eight grandchildren. Elaine was his chauffeur, which make it easy to often visit relatives and friends.

Mike was a member of the. Elks Club, Liederkrantz, Eagles Club, and Knights of Columbus. He enjoyed going out for dinner, dancing, and visiting with friends.

Although he never attended college, education was extremely important to Mike. He helped many great-nieces and great-nephews finance their college education. He was also available to relatives and friends in financial need.

Soon after retiring from the farm Mike and Elaine moved to Grand Island. Mike continued to care for people after moving, often visiting family and friends in hospitals and nursing homes. His favorite hobby was talking to people. Boy, did he have stories!

Mike was eventually diagnosed with Alzheimer 's disease and passed away on March 5, 1993. His love of laughter and story- telling touched the lives of many people, and he will not soon be forgotten.