Walter D. Pett

NORTH PRAIRIE — Walter D. Pett, 80, died suddenly Tuesday, Sept. 11, 2001, at Waukesha Memorial Hospital.

He was born Feb. 23, 1921, the first child of Reinhold and Margaret (nee Adascheck) Pett, in their home in Cumberland. He received eight years of grade school education and was also confirmed at St. John's Lutheran Church and School by the Rev. Carl Winter. During his teen-age years he worked on the family farm with his father and also with his mother's great uncle, Henry Mueller, with whom he helped construct poured concrete silos on a great many farms throughout the Waukesha County area. At age 18 he began driving trucks for Szymorski Cartage hauling mill, to Chicago.

On Feb. 10, 1945, he married Margaret C. Arndt at St. John's Lutheran Church in North Prairie. After farming for a number of years, he purchased an excavating business from Hayden Krause and started the business now known as Pett Construction Inc. He "retired" in 1986, selling that business to his son.

He was a lifelong member of St. John's Lutheran Church in North Prairie where he served his Lord and the congregation in many positions of leadership until the present time. He was also a past member of the Eagle Volunteer Fire Department and a charter member of the Eagle Lion's Club. During his many years in business, he also made numerous contributions of time, materials and equipment to projects at St. John's Lutheran Church and the Eagle community.

Walter and Margaret were blessed with the gift of five children, Dorothy (Donald) Murphy of Eagle, Wayne (Rena) Pett of Eagle, Madeline (Frances) Dubé of Acton, Maine, Stephen (Mona) Pett of Lake Mills and Paul (Mary) of Milan, Ill., who will sadly miss their father. He will also be missed by his brothers and sisters, Robert (Elsbeth) Pett of Waukesha, Norman (LaRae) Pett of Mukwonago, Martin (Lenore) Pett of West Hills, Calif., Elizabeth (Ralph) Arndt of Fort Atkinson, Trudy Rupp of Eagle, Daniel (Mary) Pett of Bella Vista, Ark., and David (Evelyn) Pett of Crawfordsville, Ore.; and his brother-in-law, Harry (Marge) Arndt of Fort Atkinson. He will also be sadly missed by his grandchildren, Michael Murphy, Melissa (Chris) McDonnell, Timothy (Jill Mitchell) Pett, Jennifer (Lawrence) Dopke, Benjamin Pett, Kent Dubé, Michelle Dubé-Swain, Kyle, Megan and Danielle Pett, Ryan, Wesley and Abigail Pett, Melissa, Thomas and Timothy Ryan. He will further be missed by his great-grandchildren, Janice Swain, Wyatt Dubé, Margaret, Emily and Jacob McDonnell and Penelope Ryan. He will also be sorely missed by a great many nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, cousins and many friends.

Walter was preceded in death by his parents; a sister-in-law, Irene (Norman Pett); his brother-in-law, Even (Trudy) Rupp; a daughter-in-law, Robin (Wayne) Pett, and a niece, Shirley (Pett) Wambold.

Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Monday, Sept. 17, at St. John's Lutheran Church, 312 North Main St., North Prairie. The Rev. Dr. Leroy Hass will officiate, with burial in North Prairie Cemetery. Visitation will be held from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 16, at St. John's Lutheran Church.

Memorials to St. John's Lutheran Church or the charity of your choice are appreciated.

Mealy's Funeral Home, 594-2442, is serving the family.

(Freeman - Sept. 12, 2001)