



Robert M. Bley, age 90, of Velva, formerly of Lignite, died Tuesday, January 5, 2010, at the Souris Valley Care Center, Velva, ND.

Robert Michael Bley was born at Port Washington, WI, January 29, 1919, to John and Mathilda (Kolbach) Bley. His mother, Mathilda died April 22, 1921.

Robert was raised on the Bley homestead of rural Portal by John and Pernellie "Nellie" (Nelson) Bley along with his brothers and sisters; Viola, Edward, Richard, Clarence, Margaret and Alfred.

Robert attended grade and high school at Portal and graduated May 1937. After graduation he joined the Civilian Conservation Corps (C.C.C.'s) and was stationed in Oregon.

Robert married Lois June Olson September 17, 1942, at St. Joseph's Catholic Church at Bowbells.

Robert grain farmed and raised cattle. He also worked at the Portal Stockyard, cut grass for the county and drove school bus for 20 years.

Robert was preceded in death by his parents, brothers and sisters; daughters Mary Elizabeth Tanberg and Mildred Louise Bley; sons Robert Lee Bley and John Michael Bley; sons-in-laws Wayne Weidman and James Mitchell.

Survived by his wife, Lois June Bley of Velva; son, Michael (Susan) Bley, of Lighthouse Point, FL; daughters, June Weidman of Voltaire; Lois (Jim) Heitz of Lignite; Florence (Michael) Murphy of Bienfait, SK; Barbara (Frank) Schaefer of Macoun, SK; Roberta (Charles) Ringwall of Columbus, and Donna Mitchell of Minot; grandchildren, Brenda (Kevin) Fleck, Lance



Opperude, Lee Ann (Michael) Larson, Loriann (Mark) Johnson, Lydia and Anna Hayes, Robert and Stephanie Sweaney, Kristopher (Lisa) and Crystal Murphy, Jeremy, Leanne and Christina Thomas; numerous great and great great-grandchildren.

