

Joseph Raymond Wiesen, Sr., son of Joseph Henry and Theresa Catherine (Meister) Wiesen, was born on August 7, 1933, at Dodge, Nebraska. He passed away on July 26, 2002, at the Shenandoah Medical Center in Shenandoah, Iowa at the age of 68, following an extended illness. Joe grew up in Snyder, Nebraska and later moved with his family to Omaha where he graduated from Tech High School. He was drafted into the Army in June of 1953 serving until 1955 during the Korean Conflict. He was a Corporal with the Nike Missile Battalion stationed at Rockaway Beach in New York. From 1955 through 1961 he was in the standby reserves.

On October 6, 1956, Joe was united in marriage to Delores Lincoln in Harlan, Iowa. Following their marriage, Joe worked in the grocery business living in Omaha and later in Lincoln where he was manager of a Safeway Store. In 1972, the family moved to Shenandoah, where Joe was manager of the Safeway, Super Valu and Sack N' Save Stores. After retiring he worked part-time for Hallett Materials until his illness slowed him down. He was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church, a longstanding member of of the Shenandoah Kiwanis Club, serving two terms as President from 1979 to 1980 and from 1994 to 1995. Joe also delivered Meals-on-Wheels, helped to organize the Share Program and served on several other committees within the community. His hobbies included his love of old cars and fixer uppers; he had a special fondness for Cadillacs and El Caminos. Joe also loved carpentry, putting his passion to work renovating the family home and building a two car garage.

Preceding Joe in death were his parents; two brothers, Hilbert (Hib) Wiesen and Victor (Vic) Wiesen. Survivors include his wife of 46 years, Delores, of the home; his children, Theresa and Rick Price of Lincoln, NE, Shari and Mike Teachout of Shenandoah, IA, Jodi and Rob Knight of Dallas, TX, Jacque and Kevin Maher of Imogene, IA, Joe Wiesen, Jr. and Chrissy Gray of Shenandoah, IA, and Diana Wiesen, also of Shenandoah; two sisters, Cecilia Stovie of Cedar Rapids, IA, and Kay McDermott of Omaha, NE; 20 grandchildren and three great grandchildren; other relatives and many friends.