

# Merle C. Knudson, 93

Irwin — Merle Conrad Knudson, son of Jacob and Elizabeth Knudson, was born on a farm in Shelby county south of Irwin, on Sept. 15, 1885. He was baptized and confirmed at the Norwegian Lutheran church near Irwin. He attended country school and grew to adulthood on his parent's farm.

On May 14, 1910, he married Ermina Bell Edwards in Manilla. Three children were born to this union. After their marriage, they made their home in Irwin where Merle managed the grain elevator for a short time. They later farmed in the Irwin and Kirkman vicinities. After Mrs Knudson's death in Aug. of 1952, Merle continued to farm until retiring in 1956 and moving into Kirkman. This was his home until becoming a resident of the Northwest Manor in Co. Bluffs in 1975. Mr Knudson died at Mercy hospital in Co. Bluffs, on Sunday, June 24, 1979, at age of 93 years, 9 months and 9 days.

In addition to his parents and his wife, he was preceded in death by an infant son, Rex; and by two brothers, Louie and Delbert. Survivors include a daughter, Marjorie (Mrs Jack Young) of Colorado Springs, Colo.; a son, Robert Knudson of Omaha, Nebr.; four grandchildren; and six great grandchildren; by a brother, Willis Knudson of Harlan; two sisters, Ella West of Harlan and Florence Schwaab of Onaga, Kans.; nieces and nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held at Pauley Funeral Home in Harlan on Wednesday, June 27, 1979, with Pastor Emil C. Martinson of the St. Paul's Lutheran church in Irwin, officiating. Burial was in the Oak Hill cemetery in Irwin, with Gene West, Floyd West, Bud Knudson, Milo Johnson, Steven Bertrang and Harlan G. Huckins serving as casketbearers.

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