

Merrill Axland, 68

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IRWIN — Merrill Illiff Axland, the son of Martin and Isabella (Hanson) Axland, was born on Oct. 30, 1918, on a farm northeast of Kirkman. He died on Sept. 13, 1987, at the Bishop Clarkson Memorial Hospital in Omaha, NE, at age 68 years, 10 months and 14 days.

He was baptized and confirmed in St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Irwin. He attended school in Irwin, graduating in the class of 1936. After high school, he continued to help with the family farming operation.

On April 18, 1943, he married Garnet Nordby at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Irwin. Three daughters were born to this union. After their marriage, he continued to farm in the Irwin area, where he has resided the last 63 years. He retired from farming in 1982, but continued to live on the farm. He was a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Irwin.

He was preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by his wife, Garnet of Irwin; three daughters, Myrna (Mrs Lynn) Gaskill of Manilla; Sheryl (Mrs Daniel) Holloway of Irwin and Joy (Mrs Joe) Daeges of Irwin; nine grandchildren; one brother, Clifford of Irwin, nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held on Wednesday, Sept. 16, 1987, at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Irwin, with Rev. Douglas L. Mathison, officiating. Burial was in the Oak Hill Cemetery, Irwin, with Sterling Nelson, Virgil E. Carter, Carl Armentrout, James Zimmerman, Herluf Christensen, Dr. Paul Christensen, Andrew Merrill Daeges, and Aaron LaVerne Daeges serving as honorary casket bearers and Greg Gaskill, Chad Gaskill, Shane Gaskill, Jerald Axland, Brad Holloway and Gilbert Hanson served as casket bearers. Pauley Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.