

Edward K. Andersen, 97

Nov. 21, 1900 - Oct. 31, 1998

AUDUBON - Edward Kristian Valdemar Andersen, son of Nels and Marie Lundberg Andersen, was born Nov. 21, 1900, in Lidstrup on the island of Falster, Denmark and died Oct. 31, 1998, at the Friendship Home in Audubon, at age 97 years, 11 months and 10 days.

He was baptized and confirmed in the Lutheran faith in Denmark and completed public education there. Later he attended Dana College in Blair, NE to study the English language. His father was a comb maker and with his family operated a cottage industry which made and marketed combs, needles, spoons and other household items made from cow horns. Upon his confirmation at age 14, Ed K. left home to work as a farm hand. Later he drove a dray team for a brickyard in Copenhagen. At the age of 18 in October of 1919 he immigrated to the United States joining his brother, Ejner, and his family in Audubon and worked in his brother's blacksmith shop. Ed K. followed the wheat harvest, worked on bridge crews, harvested potatoes in Idaho, and worked for several farmers in the community. While picking corn in Cameron Township he met his future wife, Dorothy, the daughter of John and Lulu Kester Lacy.

June 14, 1936, he married Dorothy Lacy at Our Savior's Lutheran Parsonage in Audubon, by Rev. Marinus Hagedorn. Ed K. worked for Audubon Oil until the spring of 1937, when they rented a farm in Sharon Township. During this time he served as the Honorary Mayor of Sharon. In 1941 they purchased a farm in Audubon Township and farmed there until 1947. They sold this farm and purchased one in Douglas Township which they operated until they retired from farming in 1967 and moved into Audubon. Ed K. continued to work as a handyman. Dorothy died March 26, 1992, and Ed K. moved into the Friendship Home in April of 1992. Ed K. was a faithful member of Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Audubon and at the Old Neighborhood Club of Audubon Township.

Preceding him in death in addition to his wife were his sons-in-law, Dale Rutherford and Dallas Christensen; his parents and his five sisters and four brothers including Ejner Andersen of Audubon. Survivors include his children, Esther Rutherford of Harlan; Doris Christensen of Audubon; John (Sandra) Andersen of Hiawatha; his grandchildren, Kelly and Sheryl Rutherford of Hickman, NE; Keith and Amy Rutherford of Marinette, WI; Kent and Gayleen Rutherford of Osmond, NE; Kevin and Deb Rutherford of Harlan; Mary and John Taggs of Harlan; Donna and John Thomas of Papillion, NE; Diane and Jim Wakelin of Atlantic; Dalton and Marcia Christensen of Audubon; Duane and Kristie Christensen of Wolsey, SD; Todd Andersen of Marion; Troy and Ranae Andersen of Hiawatha; Lisa Andersen of Cedar Rapids; Lynn and Chad Curl of Cedar Rapids; Tyler Andersen of Waterloo; Tiffany Andersen of Hiawatha; his great grandchildren, Bradley and Britney Rutherford of Princeton, IL; Andrew, Scott, Dane and Parker Rutherford of Marinette; Alexis, Corey and Austin Rutherford of Osmond, NE; Kristen and Ashlen Rutherford of Harlan; April and Jacob Taggs of Harlan; Brandon and Jason Thomas of Papillion; Jessica, Stephen and Amanda Wakelin of Atlantic; Dakota and Wyatt Christensen of Audubon; Nickolas Christensen of Wolsey; Nicole Andersen of Hiawatha; his step great grandchildren, Darnin Knudsen and friend, Dawn, of Omaha; Jon and Nikki Knudsen of Lincoln, NE; Kari and Jon Murray of Beatrice, NE; Brian Knudsen and Jason Knudsen, both of Hickman, NE; his step great great grandchildren, Kayla and Kyle Murray of Beatrice; nieces and nephews, Marie and Ros Aden of Carthage, IL; Eleanor and Edwin Hansen of Audubon; Emmert and Eleanora Andersen of Milford; Therma (Mrs. Joe) Andersen of Elk Horn; Dorothea (Mrs. Leonard) Andersen of Beatrice; his brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Floyd and Lois Lacy of Audubon, and sisters-in-law, Nedra Lacy of Atlantic and Ethel Voehl of Sioux Falls, SD, and a multitude of family in Denmark and other relatives.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Walter J. Kukkonen Nov. 4, 1998, at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Audubon. Burial was in the Arlington Heights Cemetery in Audubon. Honorary casket bearers were Donna Thomas, Diane Wakelin, Mary Taggs, Lisa Andersen, Lynn Curl and Tiffany Andersen. Casket bearers were grandsons, Kelly Rutherford, Keith Rutherford, Kent Rutherford, Kevin Rutherford, Dalton Christensen, Duane Christensen, Todd Andersen, Troy Andersen and Tyler Andersen. Kessler Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.