Harlan, Iowa Tribune, Tuesday 5 June 2012, page 10-A

Allen Birks, 78 Jan. 18, 1934 - May 29, 2012

MANILLA — Allen William, son of Frank and Eva (Buthman) Birks, was born January 18, 1934, in Primghar. He grew up in Irwin and attended country school through the eighth grade. Allen graduated from Manilla High School with the class of 1952.

Allen was united in marriage with Joann Neubauer on June 3, 1956 at the Church of Christ in Irwin. Allen and Joann farmed south of Manilla for 25 years. He then worked for Ahrenholtz Fertilizer in Defiance and Farmland in Denison until retiring in 1999. Allen and Joann moved into Manilla in 1985. He was an active member of the Church of Christ in Irwin, where



he served as an elder and in other leadership roles. He especially enjoyed singing with the church choir and the Men's Quartet. Allen was a devoted fan of his children and grandchildren's sports teams. Allen died on Tuesday, May 29, 2012, at the Crawford County Memorial Hospital in Denison of heart failure. He was 78 years of age.

Allen was preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by his wife Joann Birks of Manilla; four sons: Mark Birks (Denise) of Sioux Center; David Birks (Jill) of Rockwell City; Jay Birks (Jean) of Carroll; and Joel Birks (Geri) of Missouri Valley; ten grandchildren: Ben Birks (Caley), Bryan Birks, Haley Birks, Allison Birks, Jared Birks, Taylor Birks, Molly Birks, Peyton Birks, Levi Birks, and Eliot Birks; great-grandson Aidan Birks; three siblings: Reva Haskins (Darwin) of Manning; Peggy Ahrenholtz (Roger) of Manilla; and Randy Birks (Rachel) of Irwin; other relatives and friends.

Visitation and prayers were held Friday, June 1, 2012 from 5:00 - 8:00 p.m. with prayer service at 7:00 p.m. at the Ohde Funeral Home in Manilla.

Funeral services were held Saturday, June 2, 2012 at 10:30 a.m. at the Church of Christ in Irwin with Rev. Ted Sieck, officiating. Congregational hymns were "How Great Thou Art" with Peggy Ahrenholtz, accompanist and "I Was There To Hear Your Borning Cry" with Allison Birks, accompanist. Casketbearers were Ben Birks, Bryan Birks, Todd Ahrenholtz, Troy Ahrenholtz, Nate Birks, and Sean Birks. Honorary casketbearers were Haley Birks, Allison Birks, Jared Birks, Taylor Birks, Molly Birks, Peyton Birks, Levi Birks, and Eliot Birks. Interment was in Oak Hill Cemetery in Irwin.



(712) 655;3416 www.ohdefuneralhome.com P O Box 247; Manning Also in Bayard, Carroll, Coon Rapids, Kimballton, Manilla