

Harry Erwin Christensen, 93

May 20, 1902 - Jan. 23, 1996

ELK HORN - Harry Erwin Christensen was born to Danish speaking parents, Anna (Hansen) and Melkior Christensen, May 20, 1902 in Elk Horn. He, along with his parents and eight brothers and sisters, homesteaded in South Dakota from 1909 until he left for schooling in 1920, to go to Rockland, WI. He came back home to a farm near Wewela, SD to help his father, at which time he lost his heart to Nellie Edith Johnson.

After a courtship on horseback, they were married Feb. 22, 1923 and had 71 years of marriage until she died in March of 1994. They raised four children, Geraldine, Jean, Marvin and Merle, while farming for 28 years in IA. After they sold the farm they moved to Riverside, CA then in 1958 moved to Denver, CO for twelve years. In 1970, they moved to Mindenmines, MO and then back to Elk Horn in 1978. He died Jan. 23, 1996 at Salem Lutheran Nursing Home at age 93 years.

He is survived by his children, Geraldine Furne (Gordon) of Bettendorf; Jean (Pastor Robert) Johnson of Falls City, NE; Marvin Christensen (Helen) of Albuquerque, NM and Merle Christensen (Carol) of Bellevue, WA; two sisters, Inger Johnson of Spirit Lake and Helen Barker (Merle) of Kansas City, MO; 18 grandchildren; more than 30 great grandchildren; several great great grandchildren; nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Jan. 26, 1996 at the Hansen Chapel Salem Lutheran Retirement Home with Pastor Bob Mohr officiating. Burial was in the Clay Township Cemetery, rural Elk Horn. Honorary casket bearers were Kip Barker, Jeff Johnson and Richard Furne. Casket bearers were Ervin Furne, Lyle Petersen, LuVerne Petersen, Bruce Hardy, Harrison Hansen and Raymond Peterson. Steen Funeral Home, Kimballton in charge of arrangements.