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William E. Darrington, 84

PERSIA – William Elvin Darrington, oldest son of William J. and Christine (Hansen) Darrington was born May 31, 1904 in Boomer Twp., Pottawattamie County. He was educated in public schools and attended Iowa State University. On March 22, 1933, he married Mabel Marie Gravert, daughter of George and Margaret Gravert of Missouri Valley. They moved to Harrison County, four miles south of Persia and started farming on the site that has been their home for 50 years. He died Aug. 16 in a local hospital following an apparent heart attack the day before at age 84 years.

He was co-owner of the Persia Milling Co. for 22 years. After retirement, he still had an interest in the farming operations. He was a member of the Persia R.L.D.S. Church and the Farm Bureau. He was past Master of both Craftsmen Lodge AF and AM in Persia and the Agate Lodge, AF and AM in Neola, a member of the Scottish Rite 32 in Omaha and Royal Arch Mason of Iowa. He had been a director of the Home Savings Bank in Persia for 45 years. He served 10 years on AAA, a farm committee program and as a member of the House of Representatives representing Harrison County for 14 years and on several other committees. He was a charter member of the Harrison County Historical Village, later serving as president. After completing many years in the House of Representatives, he was appointed by the governor to serve on the Restoration Committee of Iowa's first Capitol Bldg. in Iowa City. The last year he served in the House of Representatives, he filed a resolution that started legislation to save the B.F. Allen and Hubbell Mansion from the wrecking ball. This property is now the Governor's Mansion known as Terrace Hill.

He is survived by his wife Mabel; one son William of Persia; daughter Mrs Raymond (Lola) Graalfs of Co. Bluffs; three great-grandchildren; one brother Howard E. Darrington of Neola; three sisters Lillian E. Darrington of Co. Bluffs; Ruth E. Anderson of Honey Creek and Ada Hall of Torrence, CA and one sister Pearl E. Pederson, preceded him in death.

Funeral services were Aug. 19 at Meyer Funeral Home in Co. Bluffs with Elder LeRoy Cave, pastor of the Persia R.L.D.S. officiating. Burial was in the Grange cemetery.