

## Murle "Casey" Fitzgerald, 97 ✓

*Dec. 9, 1908 - April 4, 2006*

**PERSIA** — Murle "Casey" Glen Fitzgerald, son of William and Laura (Hazard) Fitzgerald, was born Dec. 9, 1908, in Persia. He attended country school near Persia. After receiving his education, Casey worked for John Bentlage on a farm. He then traveled by train to find various places of employment, including traveling to Canada and Colorado.

Oct. 24, 1936, Casey married Verda Williams at Edgewood, CO. After their marriage, Casey and Verda lived in Denver, CO, where they were both employed at Montgomery Wards. In August of 1950, the couple returned to Persia, where he was the Chief of Police. April 1, 1951, they purchased Casey's Club and they worked together until retiring in 1973. He then worked part-time for the hardware store in Persia, fully retiring when the hardware store was sold. Verda died Jan. 22, 2005. He had his own bowling team in Minden, was a member of the Persia Yanks and was inducted into the Southwest Iowa Baseball Hall of Fame. He died at the Avoca Nursing and Rehabilitation Center at age 97 years, three months and 26 days.

In addition to his parents, and his wife, Verda, Casey was preceded in death by his brothers and sisters, William and Joe Fitzgerald, Opal Schleimer, and Pearl Champlin. He is survived by his daughter, Sharon Engman Jensen of Salem, MO; three grandchildren: Diane Brich of Rolla, MO; Ron Engman of Avoca; Rick Engman of Fort Worth, TX; seven great-grandchildren; many nieces and nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held April 6, 2006, at Pauley Jones Funeral Home with John Farrell officiating. Burial was in Valley View Cemetery in Persia, with Shea Engman, United States Navy and Tom Nelson honorary casket bearers. Casket bearers were Scott Brich, Jason Fitzgerald, Ron Engman, Nick Kuster, Rick Engman, and Travis Kuster. Pauley Jones Funeral Home in charge of arrangements

