

Erwin Hansen, 95

July 4, 1907 - Sept. 13, 2002

MANNING – Erwin Henry, son of Herman P. and Laura (Karsten) Hansen, was born July 4, 1907, in Manning. He grew up and attended school in Manning. Following his graduation from Manning High School in 1924, he entered the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, where he earned his Bachelor of Arts in 1930 and Bachelor of Laws in 1932. Erwin returned to Manning and established his law practice, first in the Rober-Wehrmann building and then in several other locations before building his law office at the north end of Main Street. He served in the United States Army from 1943 to 1945. He was an investigator for the Intelligence Branch of the Military Police. In 1945, he was one of many security officers working for the Army-Navy Coordination Group in charge of the United Nations Conference on International Organization, UNICO, meeting held in San Francisco, CA. UNICO eventually became the United Nations located in Washington, D.C.

After his honorable discharge from the Army, he resumed his law practice in Manning and served as city attorney for over 40 years. He was very active in community affairs and graciously donated his time and talents to many worthwhile projects. He spent a total of 80 hearing days before the Federal Power Commission in Washington, D.C., to gain a natural gas franchise for Manning and Manilla and accomplished the same objective for Woodbine in 1963. He helped establish the Aspinwall water system and the Templeton sanitary sewer system. He also laid the legal groundwork to gain access to Bureau of Reclamation power from the Missouri River Basin for the town of Manning. He was very involved with and instrumental in the success of the Manning Hospital and Manning Plaza Nursing Home. In his later years, he continued to practice law serving of counsel with Bunz and Gaffney Law Firm in Manning until the time of his death. He was a member of Zion Lutheran Church and a 50-year member of Post 22 of the American Legion. Erwin was able to live on his own and care for himself until 1997, when he became a resident of the Manning Plaza Nursing Home where he died Sept. 13, 2002, at age 95 years, two months and 10 days.

Preceding Erwin in death are his parents; brothers, John R. Hansen, Walter Hansen and Lauren Hansen; and sister, Irene Fitz. He is survived by his brother, Howard Hansen (Regina) of Omaha, NE; sister, Grace Hansen of Omaha, NE; nieces and nephews, Robert Hansen of Omaha, NE; Phillip Hansen of Omaha, NE; Bruce Hansen of Omaha, NE; Jack Hansen of Princeton Junction, NJ; Loy Fitz of Boston, MA; Martha McGlasson of Minneapolis, MN; Harriett Boltin of Minneapolis, MN and Suzanne Sall of Omaha, NE; 19 grand nieces and nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Sept. 17, 2002, at the Zion Lutheran Church in Manning, with Pastor Daniel Vogel officiating. Burial was in the Manning Cemetery with military honors by the American Legion, Emil Ewoldt Post 22 and Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 3517. Casket bearers were Robert Hansen, Bruce Hansen, Robert J. Sall, Phillip Hansen, Loy Fitz and Dan Peters. Ohde Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.