

Russell Hansen, 78

Nov. 15, 1924 - May 16, 2003

ELK HORN – Russell R. Hansen, son of Hans N. and Ellen Nymann Hansen, was born Nov. 15, 1924, at his parents' farm near Jacksonville. Russell was baptized and confirmed at the Jacksonville Lutheran Church. He attended rural schools near Jacksonville, then farmed with his father.

In July of 1949, he married Darlene L. Christoffersen at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Kimballton. Six children were born to this union. They operated the family farm for six years, moved to Arizona for one year, then moved to Fiscus, where they farmed for one year. They moved to the Exira area where they farmed until 1967. Russell moved to Mason City, and later Sioux Falls, SD where he was employed doing steel construction work for several years. He moved to Worthington, MN where he was employed at Sather's Candy Factory for several years, then moved to Primghar, where he managed an apartment house. Due to ill health, he became a resident of the Sandborn Nursing Home, then moved to the Salem Lutheran Home in Elk Horn, in 1993. He later moved to Walnut, where he lived on a farm and was the caretaker for Marge Ploen until her death, then returned to the Salem Lutheran Home. Russell had been a member of the Exira Lutheran Church. He died May 16, 2003, at the Salem Lutheran Nursing Home in Elk Horn, at age 78 years, six months and one day.

Preceding him in death were his sons, Steve Hansen and Richard Hansen, and his parents. Survivors include his daughters, Janet (Paul) (David) Blumenstein, Jr. of Conifer, CO; Lois Vargas of North Platte, NE; Eunice (Forrest) Woody Grugan of Brayton; Patti (Jim) Frederiksen of Marne; his daughter-in-law, Clarie Hansen of The Dalles, OR; his grandchildren, Heidi Blumenstein of Littleton, CO; Eric Blumenstein of Golden, CO; Nicholas Vargas and Michael Vargas, both of North Platte, NE; Bradford Grugan of Brayton; Jason Frederiksen of Ames; Kyle Frederiksen and Matthew Frederiksen, both of Marne; Sarah Hansen of Ames; his brother and sister, Vernon (Bob) (Verdell) Hansen of Harlan and Virginia (Lester) Petersen of Jacksonville; his ex-wife, Darlene L. Hansen of Atlantic; his brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, Emory (Ruby) Christoffersen of Kimballton; Dalton (Sylvia) Christoffersen of Atlantic; Ardyce (Donald) Lee of Arvada, CO; nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held with Pastor Karen Hoff officiating May 24, 2003, at the Marne United Methodist Church. Burial was in the Immanuel Lutheran Cemetery in Kimballton. Casket bearers were grandchildren, Heidi Blumenstein, Sarah Hansen, Eric Blumenstein, Jason Frederiksen, Kyle Frederiksen, Matthew Frederiksen, Michael Vargas, Nicholas Vargas and Bradford Grugan. Kessler Funeral Home in Exira, in charge of arrangements.