

Richard C. Heilesen, 73 ✓

Dec. 30, 1927 - Aug. 30, 2001

HARLAN – Richard Charles Heilesen was born Dec. 30, 1927 to Mabel Viola (Berg) and Frank Richard Heilesen on a farm near Kirkman. He was baptized at Bethel Baptist Church in Harlan. He attended Irwin Grade School, Center Township Country School and Harlan High School. He moved with his family to a farm east of Harlan in 1934. This is the same farm where Richard began his farming career with his dad in 1943.

He married Darlene I. Jensen Jan. 9, 1949, at the Irwin Methodist Church. To this union, three children were born. The young couple made their home on the Heilesen family farm near Harlan. He retired from farming in 1996, and in 1998 the couple moved to Harlan. He was a member of Parian Lodge No. 321, A.F. & A.M., Abu-Bekr Temple, Shrine A.A.O.N.M.S. of Sioux City, Lebanon Chapter No. 8, Order of the Eastern Star of Iowa, and the United Methodist Church of Harlan. He also served as the township clerk for Center Township and is a past Rainbow Dad. He died Aug. 30, 2001, at age 73 years and eight months.

In addition to his parents, Richard was preceded in death by his stepmother, Margaret; daughter, Becky Carver, and his brother, Donald Heilesen. He is survived by his wife, Darlene of Harlan; his son, Bruce Heilesen, and his friend, Ann, of Harlan; his son-in-law, Lance Carver of Zearing; and his daughter, Pat (Don) Holdsworth of Irwin; his grandchildren, Hayley and Tawnya Holdsworth, Andrew Carver and Bailey Heilesen; his brother, Frank Heilesen of Santa Rosa, CA; sisters, Bette Sorenson, Evelyn Plumb and Caryl (Lugene) West, all of Harlan, and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Sept. 1, 2001, at Pauley Funeral Home with Rev. Paul Wilcox officiating. Burial was in the Harlan Cemetery with Ray Errett, Norman Campbell, Gene West, Don Poole, Bill McMahon, Keith Jensen and Ed Mathiasen honorary casket bearers. Casket bearers were Jeff Lansman, Tim Jacobsen, Duane Errett, Steve Mathiasen, James West and Marvin Sonndag.

