

## Herbert Holtz, 91

Aug. 5, 1913 - Feb. 16, 2005

**AVOCA** — Herbert Fred Holtz, son of Fred J. and Emma Ingwersen Holtz, was born on a farm northeast of Avoca, Aug. 5, 1913. He was their first son and the third of 11 children. He was confirmed at the First Lutheran Church in Avoca in 1926. Herb attended Knox No. 8 country school through fifth grade and then went to school in Avoca through tenth grade. After that, he stayed home to help on the farm. Herb started farming a farm owned by his aunt and uncle, Jens and Laura Ingwersen, in 1938. He purchased that farm in 1955 and it was designated a Century Farm in 1993.

Herb married Clara Rock from Shelby at the First Lutheran Church in Avoca, Sept. 21, 1938. They met at an Avoca Creamery Picnic, both of their fathers having been on the board of directors of the creamery at that time. They became the parents of three children, Richard, Joyce and Janelle. He sold his cows and dairy equipment in January 1966. After that he raised grain and hogs. After their retirement, they moved into their newly built home in Avoca in June 1977. He was a rain reporter for KJAN Radio Station in Atlantic for several years. Clara died March 13, 1980. In the fall of 1999, Herb moved to Peace Haven Retirement Home in Walnut and lived there until he entered the Avoca Nursing and Rehab Center in November 2003. He moved to Salem Lutheran Home in Elk Horn in February 2004 and remained there until he died Feb. 16, 2005, at age 91 years, six months and 11 days.

Herb was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Clara; sisters, Ella Rock, Leona Jorgensen and Frances Hodge; a brother, Alvin Holtz; and a granddaughter, Traci Kuhr; great-granddaughter, Anna Sternhagen; and great-grandson, Austin Holtz. He is survived by his children, Richard Holtz (Janet) of Avoca; two daughters, Joyce (Dāvid) Kārdell of Hancock and Janelle (Richard) Kuhr of Walnut; seven grandchildren; Brett Holtz (Shelly) of Omaha, NE; Corinne Vance of Des Moines; Bradley Holtz of Graettinger; Ronda (Ralph) Sternhagen of Holland; Ryan Kardell (Holly) of Tucson, AZ; Derek Kuhr (Amy) of Harlan; and Patricia (Brandon) Heilskov of Hampton; five great-grandchildren, John, Joseph and Jack Holtz and Andrew and Matthew Sternhagen; two sisters, Evelyn Nelsen and Hazel (Orville) Krueger, all of Walnut; four brothers, Delno "Bud" Holtz (Betty) of Avoca; Raymond Holtz of Walnut; Fred Holtz, Jr. and Clarence Holtz (Betty Jean) of Avoca; nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Feb. 19, 2005, at the Trinity Lutheran Church, Avoca, with Pastor Bernard Daiker and Pastor Stephen Gronseth officiating. Burial was in the Graceland Cemetery. Honorary casket bearers were Ronda Sternhagen, Corinne Vance and Patricia Heilskov. Casket bearers were Brett Holtz, Ryan Kardell, Ralph Sternhagen, Brandon Heilskov, Bradley Holtz and Derek Kuhr. Pauley Jones Funeral Home, Avoca Chapel, in charge of arrangements.