

Jack Jensen, 86

Sept. 14, 1916 - Aug. 17, 2003

ALBERT LEA, MN – Jack Russell Jensen was born Sept. 14, 1916, to Elsie and Martin Jensen near Harlan. He joined his sister, Adeline, and later a sister, Jean, was born to the family. About 1920 they moved to a farm near Lorimer, for three years and then to Fiscus where Jack grew up. He graduated from Harlan High School in 1934. Jack was a musician and a businessman from an early age playing drums in the Farmers Union Band in Nebraska. He trapped gophers and dressed pigeons to earn money. During retirement he played in the Waseca Harmonica Band as well as with the Retired Musicians in Florida.



March 12, 1935, he married Virginia in Fiscus. The couple farmed near Fiscus and then Elk Horn, before moving to a farm near Albert Lea, MN, in 1945. Six children were born to this union. In 1966, Jack and Virginia left the farm and began working at the Blaisdell Baptist Retirement Home in Minneapolis, then later at Crest Home in Albert Lea, and finally at Thorne Crest Retirement Home. They retired in 1978 to their lake cottage in Waterville, MN, for the summers and spent the winters in North Fort Meyers, FL, for 16 years. In 1990, the couple moved to Clear Lake and then to Thorne Crest Retirement Center in 1999. Jack died Aug. 17, 2003 at age 86 at Thorne Crest South.

Jack was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Virginia; grandson, Todd Jensen; son-in-law, Jim Ahrens; and great granddaughter, Missy Corbin. Survivors include his children, Richard (June) Jensen; Julie (Ronald) Tocci; Bill (Colleen) Jensen; David (Helen) Jensen; Carolyn Ahrens; and Jonathon Jensen; grandchildren, Jon (Joanne) Jensen; Karen (Terry) Grabill; Lisa (Eddie) Corbin; Deb (Scott) Coombe; Cindy (Bruce) Ramn; LuChia Tocci; Ronnie (Sarah) Tocci; Shelly (Mike) Jensen-Kowski; Linda Jensen; Tim (Theresa) Jensen; Marcia Jensen; Mike (Lisa) Ahrens; Mark (Teresa) Ahrens; Matt Ahrens; Christopher (Charlene) Jensen; Brian (Valerie) Jensen and Anthony (Lorri) Jensen; great grandchildren, Emma Tocci; Nick Corbin; Josh and Shauna Graybill; Will and James Jensen-Kowski; Jill and Jennifer Jensen; Adam, Alyssa, Jonah, Elijah, Jessica and Abigail Ahrens; and Jeffrey, Jeremy and Kaitlyn Jensen; sisters, Adeline Green and Jean (Maurice) Group; nieces and nephews and his caregiver, Diane Elmer (Lowell).

Funeral services were held Aug. 23, 2003, at the First Baptist Church in Clarks Grove, MN, with Rev. Alvin Cooper officiating. Burial was in the Clarks Grove Cemetery. Casket bearers were Mike Ahrens, Matt Ahrens, Adam Ahrens, Scott Coombe, Christopher Jensen, Mark Ahrens, Tim Jensen, Bruce Ramn and Ronnie Tocci. Bayview/Freeborn Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.