

Ervin Koos, 90

Sept. 24, 1913 - Sept. 2, 2004

WALNUT — Ervin Jurgen Johannes Koos, the son of Henry and Anna Sornsen Koos, was born Sept. 24, 1913, at Walnut. He attended school at Walnut, graduating from Walnut High School in 1930.

March 11, 1936, Ervin married Iona Noble at Walnut. To this union three children were born, David, Karen and Kathleen. They owned a 160-acre farm and rented 300 acres west of Avoca. He has farmed all his life west of Avoca and in Walnut. Ervin was very active in Soil Conservation District affairs, and has been a Commissioner of East Pottawattamie District since March of 1959 and was a past chairman of the District. He was also a member of the Board of Directors of the Iowa Association of Soil Conservation District Commissioners and served as a past president. Ervin was a member of the Governor's Committee on Conservation and Outdoor Resources, State Watershed Advisory Board, receiving the Iowa Watershed Man of the Year Stations Soil Conservation Award in 1970, the Water Resources Committee of the National Association of Conservation Districts, and received the Goodyear Conservation Award in 1961. Ervin was named an Iowa Master Farmer by Wallace's Farmer Magazine in 1959. Ervin has been very active in the Avoca and Walnut communities. He was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church and served as the president of the Church Council. He served on the AvoHa Community School Board for 13 years and served 11 years as president. He also served as the past president of the Southwest Iowa Association of School Boards, a 4-H leader for 11 years and received honorary membership in 4-H clubs, was a member of the First Extension Council of East Pottawattamie County, Avoca Community Club and served as a past president, a 50-year member of the Masonic Order and the Knights of the York Cross of Honor as well as a lifetime member of the Farm Bureau and served as Shelby County President in 1947-1949 and a member of the Avoca Rotary Club. Ervin received the Community Leadership Award in 1985. He was the public address announcer for the Avoca and AvoHa baseball and football games for 20 years. For 35 years he was the announcer for the East Pottawattamie County Fair. He and Iona were the past Grand Marshals for the 4th of July Parade in Avoca. He has been a resident of Elm Crest Retirement Community in Harlan for the past six and a half years. It was there that he died Sept. 2, 2004, at age 90 years, 11 months and eight days.

In addition to his parents, Ervin was preceded in death by a son-in-law, Jon Kasner; his brother and sister-in-law, Norman and Grace Koos; and sister and brother-in-law, Geneva and Don Drustrup. Survivors include his wife of 68 years, Iona of Walnut; his children, Dave Koos (Kay) of Harlan; Karen Kasner of Crofton, MD; Kathleen (Larry) Kock of Walnut; eight grandchildren, Jon Kasner, Jr. (Nancy) of Poolsville, MD; Nancy A. Kasner of Gaithersburg, MD; Matt Kasner (Jeanne) of Crofton, MD; Tom Koos (Debbie) of Baldwin, MD; Todd Koos (Raquel) of Charlotte, NC; Katie (Kock) (Bryan) Wright of Ames; Charles Kock (Sarah) of Walnut; Chris Kock of Iowa City; 11 great-grandchildren, Kevin, Michael, Stephanie, Colin, Timothy, Ryan and Jon Kasner; Ashley, Kyle and Trevor Koos; and Emma Kock; niece, nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Sept. 6, 2004, at the Trinity Lutheran Church, Avoca, with Rev. Bernard Daiker officiating. Burial was in the Layton Township Cemetery, Walnut. Casket bearers were Jon Kasner, Tom Koos, Charles Kock, Nancy Ann Kasner, Katie Wright, Matt Kasner, Todd Koos and Chris Kock. Pauley Jones Funeral Home, Avoca Chapel, in charge of arrangements.