Harlan, Iowa News aDvertiser Friday June 24, 1994, pg 4-B

Vernon A. Mardesen, 85 /

Elk Horn - Vernon A. Mardesen, son of Ed and Sena Esbeck Mardesen was born in Audubon County May 9, 1909. He died May 20, 1994 at the Salem Lutheran Nursing Home in Elk Horn at age 85. He was baptized and confirmed at the Elk Horn Lutheran Church, where he was a lifetime member. He had attended rural school and worked on the family farm except for two years he worked at an oil station in Atlantic.

Nov. 29, 1933 he married Grace Pedersen at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Atlantic. To this union three children were born: Darrell, Sharon and Richard. They farmed southeast of Elk Horn for four years and in the Brayton area for nine years. In 1949 they moved to a farm southwest of Elk Horn and lived there until he retired in 1974 and then moved into Elk Horn. He worked for the Shelby County A.S.C.S. as county committee man for nine years and had served on the Shelby Board of Review for eight years.

He was preceded in death by his parents; and two brothers: Merlyn and Leo. He is survived by his wife Grace of Elk Horn; two sons: Darrell Mardesen (Sue) and Richard Mardesen (Sara) all of Elk Horn; a daughter, Sharon Nelson (Richard) of Omaha; nine grandchildren; three great grandchildren; one sister, Evelyn Osterholm of Glenwood and other relatives.

Funeral services were held May 24, 1994 at the Elk Horn Lutheran Church with Pastor Mike Williams and Intern Eric Spake officiating. Burial was in the Elk Horn Lutheran cemetery. Casket bearers were: Tom Boyd, Richard Nelson, Heath Mardesen, Gene Mardesen, Adam Mardesen and Dave Wambold. Steen Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.