

Harlan Ia., Tribune ● July 20, 1999

## Louis Pedersen, Sr., 89

June 6, 1909 – June 1, 1999

**WALNUT** – Louis Hegner Pedersen, Sr. was born June 6, 1909, at Walnut, son of Ludwig and Emelia Hegner Pedersen, and was the youngest of four children in the family. He attended Walnut School, leaving during his senior year for a life on the railroad tracks, being in his words "a professional hobo". He tried his hand at boxing to pick up some extra money during the depression. He was the owner and operator of the Louis Pedersen Tavern in Walnut for 61 1/2 years, opening in 1936, and closing in 1997, to retire. He worked as a security guard at the Martin Bomber Plant in Omaha, during World War II.

He married Ruth Elaine Totten Feb. 27, 1940. They were the parents of two boys, Louis Hegner, Jr. and Haeven Hegner. Ruth died February 20, 1972. He married Adele Thompson in Griswold July 31, 1976. He died June 1, 1999, at the Cass County Memorial Hospital at age 89 years, 11 months and 26 days.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Ruth; a brother, Felix; and a grandson, Louis III. He is survived by his wife, Adele of Walnut; sons, Louis Pedersen, Jr. (Rosemary) of Walnut and Haeven Pedersen, Sr. (Cynthia) of Des Moines; stepchildren, Mary Lou (Jack) Higgins of Lincoln, NE; Jeri (Bill) McDaniel of Battle Lake, MN and William Thompson (Glenna) of Walnut; 12 grandchildren; five step grandchildren; 22 great grandchildren; one step great granddaughter; sisters, Oda Silven of Knoxville and Pearl Pedersen of Phoenix, AZ; and other relatives.

Private graveside services were held at the Walnut Cemetery with Mr. Orris Drake officiating. Casket bearers were Tab Pedersen, Haeven Pedersen, Jr., Bryan Logemann, Todd Pedersen, Christopher Pedersen and Steven Baggenstoss. Knutson Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.