

Archie R. Petersen, 92

May 21, 1905 - April 7, 1998

HARLAN - Archie Russell Petersen, son of Hans S. and Katie (Erickson) Petersen, was born May 21, 1905, in Polk Township, Shelby County. He was baptized and confirmed at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Irwin, where he was a lifetime member. He attended Danway Country School, graduated from Kirkman High School and then attended Iowa State College at Ames, for two years where he studied agricultural production. He returned from college to farm with his father and later farmed by himself.

Archie was involved in many activities. He served on the Harlan Production Credit Board, was director at Farmers Savings Bank in Irwin, a member of the Shelby County Farm Bureau, served on the Farmers Mutual Telephone Board, a member of the Iowa State Arboretum Society, the Shelby County Historical Society, the Shelby County Garden Club, and a very active member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Irwin. He was a supporter of the National Danish Immigrant Museum, a boys 4-H leader and in the Shelby County Fair Hall of Fame. He was the first person nominated for the Shelby County Cattleman of the Year award.

He retired in 1972, continuing to live on the farm until January of 1992, when he and his sister, Thelma, moved to Harlan. He died April 7, 1998, at the Myrtue Memorial Hospital at age 92 years, ten months and 17 days.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brothers, Wilmer and Vern, and his sister, Myrtle Miller. Survivors include his sisters, Ruby (Ray) Ferry of Manilla; Thelma Petersen of Harlan; Marjorie Scheetz of Waukeegan, IL; his brother, Victor Petersen (Adele) of Exira; his sister-in-law, Lola Petersen of Manilla; 16 nieces and nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held April 11, 1998, at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Irwin, with Rev. Sidney Flack officiating. Burial was in the Rose Hill Cemetery in Kirkman, with Donald Ferry, H. Rand Petersen, Tom Petersen, Richard Ferry, Scott Petersen and Steve Scheetz casket bearers. Pauley Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.