

Charles Everette Starner, 100!**Sept. 21, 1892 — March 8, 1993**

SHELBY — Charles Everette Starner was born near Walnut, Sept. 21, 1892. He was the son of Benjamin and Maude Foster Starner. He was one of eight children in the family. When he was ten years old, the family moved to a farm five miles northwest of Shelby. He graduated from Shelby High School in 1909 as president of his class. In July of 1911 he began working at the Shelby Lumber Company. When the manager, D.K. Chestnut, died a little over a year later, the company's board of directors entrusted its management to him who continued to manage the company for 50 years and supervised subsidiaries in Bridewater and Orient, in the forties and fifties.

He married Orpha Dilla Gill Feb. 24, 1915, at Shelby. The couple had three daughters, Dorothy, who died in 1923, Grace and Lois. Orpha died Jan. 13, 1966. He married Arlene Killion Von Eschen April 2, 1983 at Shelby. He joined the Woodmen Lodge in 1910; the Masonic Lodge in 1914, and has been honored for over 75 years of service. He was a school board member; Fire Dept. volunteer; President of the Southwest Iowa Lumber Dealers Association, a member of the Shelby Commercial Organization; and the Shelby Community Club and served as secretary of the Medical Clinic Board and for 17 years for the Shelby Development Corporation to establish senior citizen housing. He served as director of the Shelby cemetery from 1927 and as secretary-treasurer since 1937, until his recent retirement. A lifelong member of the Shelby Presbyterian Church, he has served many years as a church leader and layperson. He chaired a 10 member committee that compiled the history of Shelby for the city's centennial in 1970 and spearheaded the establishment of a reference library at City Hall, which includes the most complete existing collection of the Shelby News. He served 50 years on the board of the Farmers Savings Bank, from its reorganization in 1932 until his retirement in 1982. He died at the Clarkson Hospital in Omaha, March 8, 1993, at age 100 years, 5 months and 15 days.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Orpha; their daughter, Dorothy; a great-granddaughter, Valerie Thomas; 3 brothers, Jesse, Herbert and Lee; 2 sisters, Ruth Casler and Viola Starner. Survivors are his wife, Arlene; two daughters, Grace Ebeling of Independence, MO.; and Lois Stelplug of Ankeny; 1 step-son, Delmar Von Eschen (Carol) of Shelby; and 1 step-daughter, Gretchen (Franklin) Perry of Harlan; 13 grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; 5 great-great-grandchildren; 1 brother, Allen Starner (Maud) of Hoffman, MN.; 1 sister, Hazel Starner of Elbow Lake, MN.; nieces, nephews, and other relatives.

Funeral services were held March 11, 1993, at the First Presbyterian Church in Shelby, with Rev. Gerald Oliver, officiating. Burial was in the Shelby cemetery. Casketbearers were Ronald Eggerss, Paul Peterson, Rodney Robinson, Robert Buck, Tom Rihner, and Richard Mattox. Knutson Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.