

Herbert Stearns, 86

May 19, 1922 - Aug. 22, 2008

AVOCA — Herbert "Herb" A Stearns, son of Herbert and Bertha (Martin) Stearns was born on May 19, 1922 in Hendley, NE. After his graduation, Herb served in the United States Army during World War II.

December 25, 1947, Herbert was united in marriage to Joyce Nadine Enfield in Hendley, NE. To this union three daughters were born: Kay, Linda, and Susan. After their marriage, their first home was in Walnut, IA until moving to a farm near Avoca, IA. In 1962, Herb and Joyce bought a dairy farm in Hallsville, MO. They resided there for three years before moving back to Avoca where they owned and operated Stearns Drive-In and the Y-Motel on the north edge of Avoca. He worked for the Iowa Department of Transportation for thirty years. After their retirement, they enjoyed many winters in Mathies, TX, where they enjoyed the warm weather and fishing. Herb loved the outdoors almost as much as he loved his daughters and grandkids. He wouldn't hesitate to go fishing or camping and if he stayed home, he'd be planting lots of tomatoes or gardening. He also enjoyed riding his motorcycle, dancing, and playing pitch. Herb died on Friday, August 22, 2008, having attained the age of eighty-six years, three months, and three days.



Herb is preceded in death by his parents and his wife Joyce in 2006. Herb is survived by his daughters: Kay and her husband Duane Winston of Atlantic, IA; Linda and her husband Dr. Steve Sornsen of Ames, IA and Susan and her husband Larry Madsen of Omaha, NE; his grandchildren; Nathan Winston, Derek Winston and his wife Melanie, Katie and her husband Grant Miller, Brooke and her husband Eric Johnson, Ashley Sornsen, Mallory Sornsen, Aaron Deardorff, Alec Madsen, Michelle Kessler and Eric Madsen; two great-grandchildren; his sisters: Clela Tripe of Holdrege, NE, and Arlene Kroman of Elk Horn, IA; sisters-in-law Lou Campbell of Denver, CO and Ermalea Mason of Salina, KS; other relatives and many friends.

Funeral services were held on Monday, August 25, 2008 at 1:00 PM at Trinity Lutheran Church in Avoca, IA with Pastor Dennis Reich as the clergy and Wayne Paulsen as the eulogist. Serving as casket bearers were Eric Johnson, Nathan Winston, Alec Madsen, Derek Winston, Aaron Deardorff, Erik Madsen and Grant Miller. Interment was held in the Graceland Cemetery in Avoca, IA with Military Rites by the Avoca American Legion Fred Funston Post No. 227.

Pauley Jones

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