

Donavon Voss, Sr., 81

*March 11, 1922 -
May 22, 2003*

HANCOCK - Donavon H "Don" Voss, Sr. was born March 11, 1922, in Council Bluffs, the son of Ernest and Ruth Scott Voss, and was one of four children in the family. He attended school in his early years and then worked as a hired hand for farmers in the Mineola area. He served in the Army Signal Corps, stationed near Washington, D.C. He worked with the secret codes of the time.

Don married Louise Herbert Aug. 15, 1943, at Camp Crowder, MO. After being discharged from the Army, they went back to Iowa to farm. They were the parents of 10 children, Donavon, Jr., Richard, Robert, Gary, John, David, Joseph, Ann, Paul and Roger. After a six year trial, they gave up farming and moved to Hancock, where he started working at an automotive garage which he was later able to buy. He worked on automobiles as well as farm equipment, often doing "house calls" to work on large equipment. Louise died Dec. 18, 2002. Don was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Avoca. Don died at his home in Hancock, May 22, 2003, at age 81 years, two months and 11 days.

His parents; his wife, Louise; and two brothers, Devon and Deward, preceded him in death. He is survived by his 10 children, Donavon H., Jr. (Donna) of Lawrenceville, GA; Richard E. (Bettie) of Antioch, CA; Robert A. (Diane) of Ashland, NE; Gary L. (Sue) of Lincoln, NE; John F. (Vicki) of Omaha, NE; David J. (Theresa) of Dahlonga, GA; Joseph L. (Suzanna) of Norwalk; Ann L. (Mark) Vandivort of Underwood; Paul D. (Lori) of Council Bluffs; and Roger M. (Diane) of Roanoke, VA; 23 grandchildren; one great grandchild; one sister, Roselene Andersen of Virginia Beach, VA; nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held May 27, 2003, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Avoca, with Father John Frost officiating. Burial was in the Oak Hill Cemetery, Hancock, with military graveside rites conducted by the Hancock American Legion Post #720. Casket bearers were Sean Austemore, Kevin Hyda, Aaron Voss, Nicholas Voss, Jeremy Voss, Alan Lynn and Nathan Voss. Pauley Knutson Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.