

## Eugene Wendt, 81

June 27, 1929 - Aug. 10, 2010

**AVOCA** — Eugene "Gene" Albert Wendt was born on June 27, 1929, near Corley, to Clarence and Leta (Schuning) Wendt. He was baptized and confirmed at the Lutheran church. He attended the Avoca Community School and graduated with the Class of 1947. Gene was drafted into the United States Army on February 15, 1951 and served his country during the Korean War. He was honorably discharged on February 15, 1953. He returned home and began employment with Iowa Power and retired in 1991 after forty-three years with the company.

June 22, 1957, Gene was united in marriage to Jeannette Hilkeimer in Plainview, NE. Two children were born to this union: Bruce and Kimberly. Bruce died in 1983 while attending graduate school at Ft. Hayes University of the Hanta Virus. Gene and Jeannette loved to go to both of their children's events at school and then to football games at Central College. They loved to travel and do anything with their three grandchildren. Gene also enjoyed bowling, working outdoors, feeding the birds and squirrels and raising roses. He had coffee every morning at the Embers. He was a true A-H-S-T, Hawkeyes, and Green Bay Packers fan, especially loving to go to the A-H-S-T football games. Gene died on Tuesday, August 10, 2010, at the Avoca Nursing and Rehab Center in Avoca, having attained the age of eighty-one years, one month, and fourteen days.

Gene was preceded in death by his parents, his wife Jeannette, son Bruce, and brothers and sisters: Inez, Robert, Marjorie, and Clarence. He is survived by his daughter Kim and her husband Mark Gress of Avoca; three grandchildren: Jonathan, David, and Brian; brothers and sisters: Willis Wendt of Sunnyvale, CA, Lois and her husband Dennis Jacobsen of Hancock, Marlene Peterson of Broomfield, CO, Janice and her husband Byron Martin of Avoca, and Beverly and her husband Wall Knudtson of Walnut; other family members and friends.

Pastor Dennis Reich conducted the 1:00 p.m. funeral service on August 16, 2010 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Avoca. Honorary casket bearers were Dave Niemann, Paul Simonsen and Burl Scott. Serving as active casket bearers were Jonathan Gress, David Gress, Brian Gress, Mark Wilds, Greg Martin, Dennis Jacobsen, Jr. and Darren Jacobsen. Interment was held at Graceland Cemetery in Avoca.



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