

Harlan, Iowa News Advertiser, Friday July 18, 2003,

Raymond Wendt, 91 ✓

June 14, 1912 - June 25, 2003

MINDEN – Raymond Albert Wendt was born June 14, 1912, at Hancock, the son of Albert and Regina Dietrich Wendt, and was one of seven children in the family. He attended school through the eighth grade and then began farming, working for people around Avoca. He served with the U.S. Army from 1942 until 1945, and was located in several European areas as a survey instrument operator.

He married Lois Luchsinger Dec. 18, 1946, in Avoca. They were the parents of two daughters, Karen and Rosemary. Raymond farmed southwest of Avoca for a number of years before moving to a farm south of Shelby. After his retirement, he worked for numerous farmers in the Minden area. Lois died Feb. 14, 1981, and Raymond moved to Minden. He resided in Minden until November of 1999, when he moved to Stratton, NE. He was a member of the Minden and Avoca American Legions, Avoca V.F.W., WW II Last Man's Club and the Trinity Lutheran Church of Avoca. He died June 25, 2003, at the Dundy County Hospital in Benkelman, NE, at age 91 years and 11 days.

In addition to his wife, Lois, Raymond was preceded in death by his parents; two sisters, Gertrude Oldenburg and Esther Wendt; and by four brothers, Carl, Clarence, William and Delmar. He is survived by his daughters, Karen Heimerl (Merle) of Stratton, NE and Rose McMurray-Wendt of Wray, CO; two grandchildren, Nicholle and Ryan McMurray; nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held July 1, 2003, at the Trinity Lutheran Church in Avoca, with Pastor Lou Hoger and Lay Assistant Wayne Paulsen officiating. Burial was in the Minden Cemetery with military graveside rites by the Minden American Legion Post #437. Honorary casket bearers were Dean Oldenburg, Tony Wingert, Carmen Schneckloth, Bob Hinz, Willis Wendt, Earl Bintz, Harold Bintz and Lowell Hartje. Casket bearers were Eugene Wendt, Dennis Jacobsen, Russ Knuth, Bob Wendt, Jeff Yeaton and Stan Thies. Pauley Knutson Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.