

Norman Wiig, 83

Jan. 27, 1921 - Feb. 15, 2004

HARLAN – Norman Merlene Wiig, the son of Chris and Louise (Knudson) Wiig, was born Jan. 27, 1921, on a farm in rural Shelby County. He graduated in 1940 from Kirkman High School where he was a key player on the basketball team. They won the Shelby County Conference Tournament in 1939. After graduation, he worked as a farm hand on various area farms until 1943 when he began farming on his own.

Dec. 19, 1943, he married Margaret Batten at St. Paul's Lutheran Church near Irwin. In 1955, Norman was instrumental in organizing the Kirkman Fire Department and served as its very first vice-president. He was an usher at his church for many years and also a choir member. He served on the Irwin-Kirkman School Board for three years. Norman died Feb. 15, 2004, at Jennie Edmundson Hospital in Council Bluffs, at age 83 years and 19 days.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brother and sisters, Howard, Lola Jensen and Ruby Holland. Survivors include his wife, Margaret of Harlan; his children, Gene Wiig (Julie) of Kirkman; Larry Wiig of Council Bluffs; Cathy (Gene) Cavanaugh of Harlan; Terry Wiig of Lehigh; seven grandchildren, Rodney Wiig of Glendale, AZ; Travis Rust (Ruth) and Tatum (Mac) Lange of Harlan; Tim, Rhea and Jordana Wiig of Council Bluffs; Natalie Neavin of Fort Dodge; three great-grandchildren, Nicole Lange, Madsen Lange and Emilee Rust, all of Harlan; and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Feb. 19, 2004, at Pauley Jones Funeral Home with Pastor Victor Johnson officiating. Burial was in the Danway Cemetery in Irwin, with Gilbert Hanson, Roger Rust, Marvin Rasmussen, Ellsworth Shannon, Ivan Lee, Richard Petersen, Mervin Nelson and Lewis Clausen honorary casket bearers. Casket bearers were Rodney Wiig, Travis Rust, Tatum Lange, Tim Wiig, Rhea Wiig, Jordana Wiig, Natalie Neavin, Mac Lange, Ruth Rust and Tony Cavanaugh.

