

Wilbert Brown, 85 ✓

Aug. 11, 1920 - April 15, 2006

AVOCA — Wilbert Laverne Brown was born Aug. 11, 1920, in James Township, Pottawattamie County, near Hancock, to Ralph and Lena Dethlefs Brown. He attended country school in James Township completing the eighth grade. He then worked for his father, Ralph, and Reinhardt Krummel. He also worked for Brown Oil Company of Avoca.

April 8, 1942, he married Eleanor Wise at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Avoca. To this union five children were born, Gary, James, Rosann, Randy and Gregory. They farmed southeast of Shelby from 1943 until retiring in 1985. He was on the ASCS Committee for several years following his retirement. In 1979, Eleanor and Wilbert moved into Avoca. He was an active member of the St. Mary's Catholic Church of Avoca. He died April 15, 2006, at the Alegent Health Mercy Hospital in Council Bluffs at age 85 years, eight months and four days.

Wilbert was preceded in death by his parents; a grandson, James Brown; one brother, Kenneth Brown; and one sister, Esther Neighbors. He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Eleanor of Avoca; his children, Gary Brown (Nancy) of Hastings, NE; James Brown (Connie) of Walnut; Rosann Nauman (Jim) of Avoca; Randy Brown (Linda) of Omaha, NE; Gregory Brown of Dunlap; two sisters and one brother; Ruth Christensen of Avoca; Dorothy Hildebrand of Hancock; and Lawrence Brown of Buford, GA; 17 grandchildren; 24 great-grandchildren; three great-great grandchildren; nieces, nephews and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held April 18, 2006, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Avoca, with Rev. John Frost celebrant. Casket bearers were Josh Brown, Kevin Brown, Michael Harris, Donald Brown, Daniel Brown, Keith Brown and Albert Brown. Honorary casket bearers were Robert Brown, Andrew Brown, Mashall Eddie and Angie Collins. Burial was in the Graceland Cemetery, Avoca.

Pauley Jones Funeral Home, Avoca, in charge of arrangements.