

## Kjer Christensen, 88

Jan. 12, 1926 - June 1, 2014

**KIMBALLTON** — Kjer, son of Marius and Johanna (Rasmussen) Christensen, was born January 12, 1926, at Kimballton. He attended school in Kimballton until tenth grade when he went to Audubon High School and graduated in 1943. Kjer enlisted in the Navy in June of 1943 and was honorably discharged in 1946.

Kjer was united in marriage with Loretta Nelsen on April 9, 1950, at the Bethany Lutheran Church near Kimballton. He worked various jobs in Kimballton until purchasing the Standard Oil Tank Wagon in 1951. He ran the business until he bought the Kimballton Furniture store in 1963. He sold the business and retired in 1991. Kjer and Loretta traveled a lot during their retirement, visiting all 50 states and many places in Europe including Denmark on five separate occasions. He was a member of the Kimballton Fire Department, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Immanuel Lutheran Church Council and a 50 year Shriner member. Kjer was also on the Kimballton Town Council for 37 years and served 8 years as Mayor, including during the centennial. He was a lifelong Democrat, Chicago Cub and Iowa Hawkeye fan. Loretta and Kjer enjoyed their traveling, playing cards in many different card clubs, and spending time with their children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. In September of 2011, Kjer moved to Salem Lutheran Home in Elk Horn. He died there Sunday, June 1, 2014, at the age of 88 years, 4 months and 20 days.

Kjer is preceded in death by his parents; sisters Bertha (William) Hansen and Esther Gearhart and brother Svend (Charlene) Christensen. He is survived by his wife of 64 years Loretta Christensen of Kimballton; daughters Sharon Christensen of Glenwood and Paulette Hansen and husband Rick of Audubon; grandchildren Dr. Thomas Hansen and wife Meghan and their daughter Kylie of Williamsburg; Daniel Hansen and wife Megan and their son Michael of Granger and Matthew Hansen and wife Hannah of Ames; brother-in-law Charles Gearhart of Harlan; nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Visitation and Prayers were held Wednesday June 4, 2014 from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Kimballton. Funeral services were held Thursday June 5, 2014 at 11:00 a.m. at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Kimballton with Reverend Sam Jacobs officiating at Immanuel Lutheran Church. Speakers were Dr. Thomas Hansen and Daniel Hansen. Music was "Amazing Grace", "Navy Hymn", and "God Be With You Till We Meet Again" with Marcia Nelson, accompanist and "Wind Beneath My Wings" - Recorded. Urn Bearer was Matthew Hansen. Interment with Military Honors was at Immanuel Lutheran Cemetery in Kimballton with AmVets Post #51 providing military rites.



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