

Carl Kiesel, 86 ✓

Feb. 27, 1920 - Feb. 21, 2007

SHELBY — Carl Adam Kiesel, the son of Adam and Emma (Messerschmidt) Kiesel, was born Feb. 27, 1920, in Avoca, and was one of 13 children in the family. He attended Shelby Consolidated School for nine years and then started working for his brother, Elmer, hauling grain and livestock. Carl entered into the United States Army March 19, 1942. After basic training he served overseas in the European-African-Middle Eastern Theater. He worked as a mechanic in Africa for two and a half years and then was transferred to Italy, where he was on the front line in the infantry. He received two bronze battle stars and five overseas service bars. After receiving his honorable discharge Nov. 6, 1945, he returned to Shelby to again drive truck for his brother.



Carl married Norma Jean Plautz May 6, 1951, at the Trinity Lutheran Church in Avoca. To this union five children were born: Kerry, Brian, Karla, Rick and Gale. Carl continued to work for Elmer's trucking business until 1957, when he began working for Farm Service CO-OP, operating their gas station. In 1972, he began driving a school bus part-time and in 1980 he took over his son, Kerry's bus route full time. In October 1987, Carl and Jeanie became the owners of the Shelby Mini-Mart. He was a member of the Shelby Lutheran Church and the Shelby American Legion and was their Commander for more than 10 years. He also served on the city council for eight years and was a longtime member of the Shelby Volunteer Fire Department. Carl died suddenly at Myrtue Memorial Medical Center Feb. 21, 2007, at age 86 years, 11 months and 25 days.

Carl was preceded in death by his parents; his brothers and sisters, Lydia Wede, Elmer, Walter, Edwin, Ernest, Hilda, Helen Boeck, Celia Bargenquast, Elsie Messerschmidt, Clara Chipman, and Clarence. Survivors include his wife, Jeanie of Shelby; his children, Kerry Kiesel (Delores) of Shelby; Brian Kiesel of Omaha, NE; Karla (Rich) Baird of Avoca; Rick Kiesel of Shelby; and Gale Kiesel (Carrie) of Avoca; 12 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; two step grandchildren; and four step great-grandchildren; one sister, Edna Boll of Walnut; nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Feb. 24, 2007, at the United Lutheran Church in Shelby, with Pastor Duane Anunson officiating. Honorary casket bearers were Ronald Kiesel, Doug Kiesel, Dr. Don Hansen, Merle Kiesel and Tim Tuel. Casket bearers were Tom Jensen, Richard Baird, Jr., Schuyler Kiesel, Travis Kiesel, Chad Henry and Zach Kiesel. Burial was in the Graceland Cemetery with military graveside rites by the Shelby American Legion Post No. 240. Pauley Jones Funeral Home in Avoca in charge of arrangements.