

Emmert Knudsen, 86

April 15, 1929 - July 1, 2015

JACKSONVILLE — Emmert

Christian Knudsen was born on April 15, 1929 to George and Marie (Christensen) Knudsen on the homeplace in Jacksonville. He grew up on the family farm, attended country school at Jackson No. 4 and graduated from Harlan High School. He served in the United States Marine Corps from August of 1951 to August of 1953 during the Korean War.



November 8, 1953, Emmert was united in marriage to Fern Nielsen. They became parents to four children: Krisie, Jamie, Monte, and Lorie. The couple made their home across the road from Bowman's

Grove Cemetery where they farmed until 1964. At that time, his parents moved to a new home in Kimballton and Emmert moved his family to the homeplace, where he remained. After several more years of farming and raising livestock, Emmert bought a semi and hauled hay for a few years, worked as a construction foreman, and worked for Knudsen Construction before retiring at the age of seventy-five. Most Sunday nights, you could find Emmert and Fern dancing to big band music at the hall in Minden. They were also part of the Elk Horn-Kimballton folk dancers and performed during numerous Tivoli Fests.

Emmert believed in raising his family in a faith-based home and was proud that his children are still active church members and sharing their faith and beliefs with their own children. He was one of the founding board members of the Abundant Life Church where he remained an active member until his death on Wednesday, July 1, 2015 at the Madonna Rehabilitation Hospital in Bellevue, NE. He had attained the age of eighty-six years, two months, and sixteen days.

Emmert was preceded in death by his parents and his sister Elaine Knudsen. He is survived by his wife of nearly sixty-two years, Fern Knudsen of Jacksonville; children: Krisie and her husband Rich Williams of Harlan, Jamie Knudsen also of Harlan, Monte and his wife Peggy Knudsen of Mount Pleasant, and Lorie and her husband Lyle Becnel of Broken Arrow, OK; fifteen grandchildren; four great-grandchildren with another coming soon; his sister Alice (whom he had a very special bond with) and her husband Harold Pieper of Kimballton; other family members and many friends.

The 10:00 a.m. funeral service was officiated by Pastor Jeff Erlemeier and Pastor David Larsen at the Abundant Life Church in Harlan, on Monday, July 6, 2015. Music was provided by Alysha Knudsen, Chandra Knudsen, and Kara Becnel with a duet by Jamie Knudsen and Monte Knudsen. Honorary casket bearers were Harold Pieper, Leroy Larsen, David Larsen, Lyle Knudsen, and Merlyn Knudsen. Serving as casket bearers were Lyle Becnel, Rich Williams, Justin Williams, Ethan Williams, Eli Williams, Blake Knudsen, Brennon Knudsen, Brayden Knudsen, John Vorrath, Josh Becnel, and Brant Knudsen. Military Rites were provided by Harlan American Legion Post No. 150 and Shelby County VFW Post No. 941 at the Jacksonville Cemetery.



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