

Clyde Lorren Olson, 87

Jan. 21, 1906 — June 27, 1993

MANILLA — Clyde Lorren Olson was born on a farm near Kirkman, Jan. 21, 1906, son of Joseph L. and Maggie Gardner Olson. One month later, in Feb. of 1906, he and his family moved by horse-drawn sleigh to the Olson family farm located between Manilla and Irwin. He was the fourth of five children, including two older brothers, Clifford and Bertram; an older sister, Beulah, and a younger brother, Leroy. He grew up on the family farm and attended rural school through the 8th grade at Jefferson #3. He went to high school in Irwin, graduating in 1924 from the Irwin High School. Following high school, he spent several years living with his parents and working in various jobs, including work as a farmhand and as a driver for the horse-drawn Irwin School "bus" and sleigh. In 1934, he started selling insurance and continued in that business until 1990. His insurance business, centered in Manilla, reached four counties, and became one of the largest one-person agencies in Iowa.

June 5, 1935, he married Delpha Catherine Louise Boyens. They lived in Aspinwall until 1941, where Delpha taught school and he sold insurance, milked dairy cows and produced milk for city dwellers in Aspinwall, and occasionally tended bar for his father-in-law, Fred Boyens. In 1941, they moved to Manilla. Two sons were born and raised in Manilla, Ronald L., a Los Angeles lawyer living in Pasadena, CA.; and James L., now a family practice physician in Seattle, WA. In 1972, Delpha, became a formal partner in the insurance agency, along with Leonard Jones. That partnership, Olson & Jones, continued until Delpha died in 1977. He continued to live in Manilla until 1991, when he moved to a Lutheran retirement home near his son in CA. He died there June 27, 1993, at age 87 years, and 5 months. He was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Manilla.

Besides his wife he was preceded in death by his parents; and the following brothers and sisters, Clifford, Bertram, Beulah, and Leroy. He is survived by his two sons; their wives, Jane and Heather; 4 grandchildren; 2 sisters-in-law, Thelma and Ruth Olson; and many nieces, nephews, and other relatives.

Funeral services were held July 1, 1993, at the Trinity Lutheran Church in Manilla with Pastor Glenn Wiechmann, officiating. Burial was in the Nishnabotna cemetery near Manilla. Honorary casketbearers were Harold Crouch, Everett, Quick, Harry Jansen, Leonard Jones, Dr. John Hennessey, Virgil Crouch, Leona Wiese, Lucy Borkowski, Ruth, Olson and Maude Frank. Casketbearers were David Olson, Dean Olson, Allen Olson, Howard Clark, Loren Clark, Keith Boyens, Kevin Boyens and Larry Boyens. Ohde Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.