

## Ralph F. Paul, Sr., 83

Aug. 16, 1914 - Aug. 20, 1997

**SHELBY** - Ralph Franklin Paul, Sr. was born in Harrison County, Aug. 16, 1914. He was the son of Frank and Martha Petersen Paul and was one of seven children in the family. He attended country school and the Shelby High School and graduated in 1932.

He married Genevieve Branstiter Dec. 31, 1936, in Co. Bluffs. They were the parents of five children. They purchased their farm in Harrison County, shortly after they were married and remained on this farm until their retirement when they moved to their home in Shelby. He remained active on the farm his entire life and spent much of his time helping his son on the farm. He served for several years on the Shelby School Board, the Shelby Cemetery Board since 1959, and on many of the boards of the Shelby United Methodist Church. She died June 8, 1992. He died suddenly at his home in Shelby, Aug. 20, 1997, at age 83 years and four days.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Genevieve; their son, Robert; two sisters, Gladys Boylan and Florence Paul; three brothers, an infant brother, Clarence Paul and John Paul. He is survived by his children, Sharon Nelson of Shelby; Ralph Franklin Paul Jr. (Connie) of Persia; Cheryl Kay (Dale) Moore of Cedar Rapids and Linda Jo (Keith) Wilson of Toddville; 11 grandchildren, nine great grandchildren; one sister, Esther (R.W. "Dick") Dea of Avoca; nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Aug. 23, 1997, at the United Methodist Church, Shelby, with Pastor Walt J. Bernard, Jr. officiating. Burial was in the Shelby Cemetery. Honorary casket bearers were past and present neighbors and friends, Shelby Street Gang. Casket bearers were Waylan Nelson, Craig Hanson, Kevin Zimmerman, Robert Paul, Chad Hoefler, Brad Blum, David Moore, Steven Moore, Karen Paul, Kurtiss Wilson and Steve Schoenauer. Knutson Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.