

Gaylord Heilesen, 86 ✓

April 26, 1924 - Oct. 2, 2010

IRWIN – Gaylord LaVerne Heilesen, the son of Arthur Clarence and Mary Elizabeth (Constable) Heilesen, was born on April 26, 1924, on the family farm located east of Kirkman. He attended country school and graduated from Kirkman High School in 1941. Gaylord farmed, first with his father, and later in partnership with his brother, Merlyn.

March 2, 1952, Gaylord married Maxine Augusta Eggers in Avoca. The couple lived on the farm until February 15, 2010, when they moved to Irwin following a fire on the farm. Gaylord became a resident of the Manilla Manor Sept. 7, 2010. Gaylord was a member of the Irwin Church of Christ in Irwin where he had served as a deacon and trustee. He was the former president of the Midwest Quarter Horse Breeders Association, and had served as a Douglas Township trustee and a member of the Kirkman Fire Department. Gaylord had also been a Shelby County Fair Board member, a Myrtue Medical Center board trustee, and a FMCTC board member. He enjoyed raising and showing quarter horses and attending farm and horse auctions. Gaylord L. Heilesen died on Saturday, October 2, 2010, at the Manilla Manor in Manilla, having reached the age of 86 years, 5 months, and 6 days.



Gaylord was preceded in death by his parents; one sister, Marjorie Davey, one son-in-law, James Winchell; and one brother-in-law, Clark Davey. He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Maxine Heilesen of Irwin; one son, Keith "Statman" Heilesen of Harlan; one daughter, Denise Winchell of Logan; one sister, Shirley (Ralph) Doonan of Alexandria, MN; one brother, Merlyn (Betty) Heilesen of Kirkman; four grandchildren, Hannah Winchell, Isabelle Winchell, Jaxon Winchell, and Haddie Winchell; and other relatives and friends.

Funeral services were held on Thursday, October 7, 2010, at the Irwin Church of Christ with Rev. Ted Sieck officiating. Peggy Ahrenholtz served as the organist. Casket bearers were John Davey, Glenn Davey, Gene Davey, Craig Bower, Marty Davey, Robert Davey, David Heilesen, and Douglas Heilesen. Burial was in the Oak Hill Cemetery in Irwin. Condolences may be left online at www.burmeisterjohannsen.com.

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FUNERAL HOME

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