

Walter F.W. "Boots" Lapel, 83

Feb. 25, 1913 - Feb. 5, 1997

MANNING - Walter "Boots" Lapel, son of Gustav and Bertha (Bohlander) Lapel, was born Feb. 25, 1913, in Crawford County. He attended rural schools near his home and later farmed with his father.

March 21, 1936, he married Hertha Bandow. Five children were born to this union. After farming with Albert Bandow for several years, he then farmed for himself in Crawford and Shelby Counties. Later the family moved to Manilla where he worked for Milwaukee Railroad for 15 years. His wife died June 21, 1963. He retired in 1971.

June 4, 1974, he married Florence Steckelberg Hass at Manning. They lived in Woodward for several years returning later to Manning in 1980. In 1992, he lost his eyesight and his health failed. His wife cared for him at their home. He entered the Manning Hospital one day before he died Feb. 5, 1997, at age 83 years, 11 months and 11 days.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his stepmother, Elizabeth Odefy; his first wife, Hertha; two sons who were stillborn and a brother in infancy. He is survived by his wife, Florence; three children, Roger (Theresa) Lapel of Bloomington, MN; Larry (Donna) Lapel of Co. Bluffs; Beverly (Richard) Curlee of Omaha; nine grandchildren; nine great grandchildren; six stepchildren, Keith (Sandra) Hass of Manning; Kenneth (Jolene) Hass of Loveland, CO; Kathryn (Phillip) Cooper of Glenwood; Kay (Robert) Subbert of Panora; Kevin Hass of Glenwood; and Kurt Hass of Manilla; 18 step grandchildren; 24 step great grandchildren; two sisters, Selma Carter, Irwin and Leita (John) Steckelberg of Denison; nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Feb. 8, 1997 at the Ohde Funeral Home in Manning with Pastor Robert Riggert, Zion Lutheran Church, Manning, officiating. Burial was in Hayes Twp. Cemetery at Westside. Casket bearers were Kent Lapel, Ronald Lapel, Tracy Lapel, Kristi Nicholson, Shari McDowall, Jeff Lapel, Wendy Duis, Chad Lapel and Tina Lapel. Honorary casket bearers were Raymond Dammann, Joe Sonkson, Gilbert Peters, David Kusel, Frank Kasperbauer and Melvin Bandow.