

Dale Loukaitis, 75

Jan. 20, 1930 - Jan. 28, 2005

EXIRA — Dale George Loukaitis was born Jan. 20, 1930, in Audubon County, to John and Julia (Scheeler) Loukaitis. His parental grandparents emigrated to the United States from Lithuania, and his maternal grandparents were of German descent. He attended Adair Community Schools, graduating from Adair High School in 1949.

Dale married Mary Ann Turner in 1951 and four children were born to this union. Dale and Mary farmed together southeast of Exira until they divorced in later years. He continued on his farm, residing there after retirement and renting out the cropland and pasture. He restored a number of vintage John Deere tractors. He served in the Iowa National Guard, and in the 60's obtained his pilot's license and bought a Cessna airplane, setting up an airstrip and hangar on acres he owned west of the home place. He later owned Piper Cherokee planes. He had two open heart surgeries in his later years. He died Jan. 28, 2005, at his rural Exira home at age 75 years and eight days.

Preceding Dale in death were his parents; a brother, Darold, at age 18, and a great-grandchild. He is survived by his four children, Terry Loukaitis of Lakebay, WA; Dan Loukaitis of rural Exira; Audrey Geneve of Colorado Springs, CO; and Beth King of Council Bluffs; a sister, Lois (Robert) England of Mount Ayr; six grandchildren; great-grandchildren; a niece, nephews and other relatives.

Dale was cremated and a private memorial service was held the week following his death. Neptune Society through Brooks Funeral Care in Des Moines, in charge of arrangements.