

Ron Meisel, 66

Dec. 7, 1940 - Nov. 3, 2007

IRWIN — Ronald John, son of John Nicholas and Viola (Behrend) Meisel, was born Dec. 7, 1940, at Charles City. The family lived on his grandparents' farm west of Manilla. He began school in Astor and then attended Manilla where he graduated from high school in 1959.

Sept. 24, 1960, Ron married Patricia Irene Ohrt at Trinity Lutheran Church in Manilla. He worked high line construction with his father and farmed from 1963 to 1978 in the Manilla area. The family moved to Missouri for four years to farm and raise livestock. They returned to Minden, and Ron worked on construction of the interstate. In 1987, they moved to their present home southwest of Irwin. He has done conservation construction work, such as building terraces, for many farmers in the area. He was past-president of the Iowa Land Improvement Contractors organization and past volunteer for the Kirkman Fire Department. Since last summer, Ron had been fighting lung cancer. He died unexpectedly Nov. 3, 2007, at age 66 years, 10 months and 27 days.

Preceding Ron in death are his parents. He is survived by his wife, Pat Meisel of Irwin; son, Boyd Meisel (Buffy) of Council Bluffs; daughter, Laura (John) Mac Donald of Omaha, NE; foster son, Dwight Brittain (Jeanie) of Hernando, MS; six grandchildren, Kody Kellar; Mercedz and Mackinley Meisel; Casondra and Alexandra Mac Donald; and Addison Brittain; sister, Kathryn Stuckmyer and Robert Hurlbutt of Des Moines; brother, Richard Meisel and Kathleen Giarratano of Marshalltown; mother-in-law, Irene Ohrt of Harlan; nephew, Tony Stuckmyer; and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Nov. 7, 2007, at the Ohde Funeral Home in Manilla, with Pastor Walter Bernard officiating. Honorary casket bearers were his grandchildren, Kody, Mercedz, Mackinley, Casondra, Alexandra and Addison.