

Ernest Keith McMartin, 80

March 16, 1919 – April 15, 1999

HANCOCK – Ernest Keith McMartin was born March 16, 1919, in Carson, to Ernest Kerr and Rosa (Hendrix). Keith was the youngest of seven children, Helen Herald, Marguerite Ruehle, Kenneth, Chester, Dorothy Shutters and William. He graduated from Carson High School in 1937.

He married Esther Faye King March 17, 1940. They started their married life in Oakland where both were employed by Parker Dairy. In the spring of 1941, they moved to Omaha where Keith attended Sheet Metal School. They then moved to Buffalo, NY, where both were employed by Bell Aircraft. He worked three years repairing airplanes in support of the war effort. In 1945, they returned to Iowa, where they started farming near Oakland and Carson. Since 1959, they have lived near Hancock where he milked cows, raised horses, farmed and raised their family. They are parents of two sons, Kelly and Robert, and one daughter, Robin. He died suddenly at Clarkson Hospital in Omaha, April 15, 1999, at age 80 years and 30 days.

Keith is survived by his wife, Esther, and his children, Kelly McMartin (Darlene) and their children, Chyrstal, Amy and Travis, all of Hancock; Robert McMartin and his children, Brittany and Cody of Amarillo, TX and Robin McMartin of Lewis; her son, Justin McMartin (Kathy) and stepdaughter, Alexi, of Estherville; brothers, William C. (Muriel) McMartin of Carson and Chester McMartin of Keene, NH; and other relatives.

Funeral services were held April 17, 1999, at the Knutson Funeral Chapel, Avoca, with Rev. Dr. Judy Flanegin officiating. Inurnment was in the Oak Hill Cemetery, Hancock.