

E. Laverne Nelson, 92

April 18, 1919 - Jan. 18, 2012

IRWIN — Elmer Laverne Nelson was born on April 18, 1919 in Polk Township near Kirkman, to Clarence and Margaret (Georgeson) Nelson. He was baptized at Merrill's Grove Baptist Church. He attended country school at Polk #7 through the eighth grade. His farming career began at a very early age on the family farm.

February 20, 1942 Laverne was united in marriage to Marian Wiuff in Audubon. Three children were born to them: Paul, Randall, and Debbie. Laverne was an excellent woodworker and spent much of his time carving various items from wood such as candle holders, Christmas trees, doll-sized furniture, and large barns and bridges.

Laverne was married to Mary Elizabeth (Meisenbach) Wiig on December 20, 1976 by the Justice of the Peace in Atlantic. They lived on the farm near Irwin until Laverne went to the Salem Lutheran Home in Elk Horn where he lived for a short time before moving to the Manilla Manor Nursing Home in Manilla. He was a member of First Baptist Church in Elk Horn for thirty years. Laverne died on Wednesday, January 18, 2012 at the Myrtue Medical Center in Harlan, having attained the age of ninety-two years and nine months.

Laverne was preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by his wife Mary Nelson of Irwin; his sons: Paul Nelson and his wife Joanne of Irwin and Randall Nelson and his wife Joan Watson-Nelson also of Irwin; daughter Debbie and her husband Tom Scott of Smyrna, TN; sixteen grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; step-children Richard Wiig and his wife Renae of Irwin, Barbara and her husband Mark Kanne of Austin, MN, Robert Wiig and his wife Denise of Irwin, Roger Wiig and his wife Michele of Sioux Falls, SD; sister Evelyn Olsen of Audubon, and brother Herbert Nelson and his wife Marjorie of Atlantic; other family members and friends.

Pastor Paul Reynolds officiated the 10:30 a.m. funeral service at the First Baptist Church in Elk Horn on Monday, January 23, 2012. Serving as casket bearers were Jeremy Nelson, Jeff Hansen, Fred Nelson, Gary Olsen, Bob Fitch, Leo Mayol, and Will Nelson. Interment was held at the Oak Hill Cemetery in Irwin.



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