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## LaVerne Nelson, 68

*July 12, 1936 - May 31, 2005*

**ELK HORN** — LaVerne Richard Nelson, son of Leonard and Dorothy Esbeck Nelson, was born July 12, 1936, at his grandparents' home west of Exira. He was baptized and confirmed at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Kimballton. He attended rural school near Kimballton then graduated from the Elk Horn-Kimballton High School with the class of 1955. He managed Nelson DX gas station in Kimballton for a short time. Then he was employed by Kattoft Construction until he was inducted into the United States Army in December of 1958. During his tour of duty, he was stationed at Ft. Hood, TX and also served in Germany. He was honorably discharged in October of 1960 and returned to Kimballton.

Aug. 6, 1961, he married Marilyn Baker at the First United Methodist Church in Harlan. LaVerne farmed with his father then purchased a farm near Marne in 1963. While farming, he also was employed by Lindeman's Tractor in Atlantic, for a short time. He operated their farm and continued to farm with his father until he suffered a stroke and had to retire from farming in 2003. He was a resident of the Avoca Nursing and Rehabilitation for a short time, and then moved to the Salem Lutheran Home in April of 2004. He was a member of the Elk Horn Lutheran Church. He died May 31, 2005, at Myrtue Memorial Hospital at age 68 years, 10 months and 19 days.

Preceding LaVerne in death were his grandparents, Lars and Anna Nelson and Peter and Clara Esbeck; his uncles, Herman Nelson; Ray and wife, LaVerna Nelson; Harvey and wife, Lorraine Nelson; Gene Greer; and Melvin Stalldorf; and his aunt, Aletha and husband, Orville Hansen. Survivors include his wife, Marilyn Nelson of Elk Horn; his children, Cheri (Mike) Mahoney of Monroe, NC; Leland Nelson of Elk Horn; Paul (Kim) Nelson of Dexter; Nancy (Kelly) Britton of Elk Horn; his grandchildren, Holly and Samantha Mahoney of Monroe, NC; Cassandra Nelson of Norfolk, NE; Raini, Cole and Kailey