

Hans Nielsen, 84

Nov. 9, 1929 - June 28, 2014

HARLAN — Hans John Nielsen was born November 9, 1929, in Boone County, Ne, to Sigrid (Jensen) Nielsen and Hermann Nielsen. The family moved to Shelby County, when Hans was a toddler and he grew up on a farm near Kirkman. He graduated from Kirkman High School with the class of 1947. After graduation, Hans spent a year in Denmark visiting relatives where he drove his Grandpa Hans Jensen from farm to farm for his veterinary practice. Hans attended Grand View College in Des Moines, and in 1951, he entered into the United States Army and was stationed in Germany for two years as a supply clerk and truck driver.



November 28, 1953, Hans married Joyce Marie Krummel in Avoca. They moved to a farm southeast of Defiance, where they farmed for 33 years. Three children were born to them: Deena, Becky, and Jay. In 1985, Hans and Joyce moved to an acreage north of Harlan, where they owned and operated Nielsen RV Park. Hans also worked driving a bus for SWITA for a number of years. Hans was an active 4-H leader, member of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Harlan, and also a member of the Shelby County Saddle Club. He served as a Shelby County Soil Commissioner for over 25 years and was very adamant about practicing good soil conservation. He raised many quarter horses and black Angus cows. His favorite pastimes were trail riding on his beloved horses, spending time with family and a good game of pinochle. Hans was kind and gentle to all who knew him. He will be remembered for his quick wit, sense of humor, and honesty. Hans J. Nielsen died on Saturday, June 28, 2014, at Myrtue Medical Center in Harlan, having reached the age of 84 years, 7 months, and 19 days.

Hans was preceded in death by his parents; his stepmother, Inger Nielsen; two brothers, John Nielsen and Paul Nielsen; one daughter, Deena Nielsen; and one granddaughter, Nicole Misselhorn. He is survived by his loving wife, Joyce Nielsen of rural Harlan; one daughter, Becky (Gary) Feser of Irwin; one son, Jay (Susan) Nielsen of rural Defiance; one grandson, Matt Nielsen of Kirkman; one granddaughter, Carly Nielsen of rural Defiance; one brother Carl (Mary) Nielsen of rural Harlan; and many nephews, nieces, and friends.

The funeral service was held on Wednesday, July 2, 2014, at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Harlan, with Pastor Janet Miller officiating. Jennifer Perkins was the organist and Kathy Christensen served as the vocalist. Honorary casket bearers were Richard Petersen, Jim White, Gayle Petersen, Virgil Christensen, John Lees, Merlin Heilesen, and Ellsworth Shannon. Active bearers were Gary Feser, Erik Nielsen, Matt Nielsen, Carly Nielsen, Kenny Nielsen, and Austin McKeever. Burial was in the Harlan Cemetery, Harlan. Condolences may be left online at www.burmeisterjohannsen.com.

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FUNERAL HOME

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