

## Gorden Schroder, 63

*May 1, 1938 – Oct. 15, 2001*

**SHELBY** – Gorden Edward Schroder was born in James Township west of Hancock, May 1, 1938, the youngest child of Edward Lenard and Lydia Irene Sander Schroder. Gorden and his sister and three brothers were raised on several farms in the Avoca area. After being born on the farm west of Hancock, the family moved south of Avoca where Gorden began school at the Knox Township country school and attended seventh and eighth grade at the Newtown country school. The family then moved north of Avoca in 1948, where he finished eighth grade at the Center country school with Esther Scott as teacher. He was a member of the Fairview Future Farmers 4-H Club. Gorden attended the Avoca High School until his graduation in 1957. He enlisted in the Army Reserves Oct. 4, 1956 through Oct. 4, 1964, with six months active duty and 7 1/2 years reserve duty.

In December 1959, Gorden and Janiece Ellen Heft were engaged and were married by Rev. Joseph Gerft June 8, 1960, at Trinity Lutheran Church, Avoca. They made their home northeast of Avoca on the 60-acre farm Gorden had rented from his brother, Loren, since 1958. In November, their son, Dale Edward, was born. In the spring of 1962, the family moved to the Bill Lewis farm south of Harlan where their daughter, Shari Ellen, was born in March of 1963. In January 1964, the family moved to the Charlie Albright farm east of Minden until moving to the Walt Pflugshaupt farm on Highway 83 south of Shelby in 1972. March 1, 1974, the family moved to the David Paul farm northwest of Shelby. In May 1977, they purchased the 160-acre farm northwest of Shelby from Ray and Wilma Schroder where they moved to in 1984. In 1993, Gorden and Janiece moved to the Henry Franz farm west of Shelby, their present home. He was baptized and confirmed, and was a current member of Trinity Lutheran Church, Avoca. In addition to farming, Gorden has always supplemented their income by working as a hired hand, storm window manufacturer, carpenter, Fullerton Lumber cement worker, American Cyanamid salesman, gas station attendant, custom baling and farm work, construction of I-80 and Omaha surface projects, seed corn salesman, machinist, realtor, appraiser and truck driver, as well as welding, landscaping and restoring old tractors like his Super C. He died Oct. 15, 2001, at his home west of Shelby at age 63 years.

He was preceded in death by his parents and is survived by his wife, Janiece; son, Dale (Connie) and children, Jenna, Devin and Katelin of Avoca; and his daughter, Shari (Mark) and his daughter, Angela of Northridge, CA; brothers and sister, Lenard Schroder (Annie) of Atlantic; Loren Schroder (Elaine) of Avoca; Phyllis Klindt (Max) of Avoca and Marvin Schroder (Carole) of Walnut; father and mother-in-law, Harris and Esther Heft; sisters-in-law, Julianne Thompson (Roger) of McAllen, TX; Carolyn Stelling (Henry) of Plainview, MN; nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Oct. 19, 2001, at the Trinity Lutheran Church, Avoca, with Pastor John Rinde and Lay Assistant Wayne Paulsen officiating. Honorary casket bearers were Lenard and Annie Schroder, Loren and Elaine Schroder, Phyllis and Max Klindt, Marvin and Carole Schroder, Harris and Esther Heft, Julianne and Roger Thompson, Carolyn and Henry Stelling, Frank Maassen, Lawrence and Jean Dittmer and Willard Dittmer. Casket bearers were Roger and Bev Paul, Frank and Connie Paul, Marty and JoAnn Schuemann, Ronald and Joy Young, Gayle Schroder and Brent Stelling. Knutson Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.