

Harlan, Iowa News Advertiser, Friday, September 7, 2001,

## **Russell Simdorn, 79**

*May 16, 1922 – Aug. 6, 2001*

**LITTLE ROCK, IA** – Russell Allan Simdorn was born May 16, 1922, at Elkton, SD, the youngest son of 10 children of William and Hilka (Freese) Simdorn. His mother died when Russell was two weeks old. He was raised by Jacob and Dora DeBoer of George, until the age of 12, when he made his home with Martin P. and Grace Kruger. He attended rural schools in the George area.

He married Ila Mae Eberline Feb. 12, 1944, at the Zoar Presbyterian Manse. They farmed one mile north of Zoar Church until their retirement in 1988, where they continued to live until his death. Russell farmed and his specialty was raising hogs. Russell had served for nine years on the board of directors for the Lyon Rural Electric Cooperative. At the time of his death, he was serving as a Grant Township trustee. He was a member of Zoar Presbyterian Church where he served as trustee and on the cemetery board. Russell was proud of his German heritage, and spoke low German with many of his friends. Aug. 5, Russell was taken to Sioux Valley Hospital where he died Aug. 6, 2001, at age 79 years.

He was preceded in death by his parents; four brothers and five sisters. He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Ila Mae of Little Rock; one son, Allan (Sally) Simdorn of Harlan; three daughters, Lora Lee (Gordon) Kuiper of Little Rock; Lila (Jim) Kennedy of Rock Rapids and Marla (Dean) Jacobsen of Spencer; eight grandchildren; two great grandchildren; his special relatives, Fedelis Wiertzema, Jane Pap, Iona Simdorn and five nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held Aug. 9, 2001, at the Zoar Presbyterian Church, George, with Rev. Dale Lint officiating. Burial was in the Evergreen Lawn Cemetery, George. Casket bearers were Daryl Janssen, Greg Gerken, Gary Kruger, Jr. Kannegieter, Jerry Sandbulte, David DeBoer, Fred Schaa and Delbert Krull. Walton, Roste & Vogel Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.