

Albert Smyser, 81

Dec 24, 1919 – Jan 4, 2001

AVOCA – Albert Grant Smyser was born in Albia, Dec 24, 1919 the son of John and Fannie Gill Smyser. He was one of 11 children in his family. He grew up and attended school in the Grant City, MO area. He was employed as a meat cutter in Grant City.

He married Virginia Lee Porter May 10, 1942 in Albany. They were the parents of 5 children. Al and Virginia moved to the Avoca area in January of 1960. He was employed as a meat butcher in the Ruback's Grocery store in Avoca for many years. He had also worked as a fur buyer for the local fur trappers in the area. He and Virginia were married for over 58 years. Al died at his home Jan 4, 2001 at age 81 years and 11 days.

He is preceded in death by his parents; 5 sisters: Mary Moore, Eleanor Hays, Evelyn Thrasher, Helen Runyon and Anna Mae Rinehart; 3 brothers: John, James and Claude Smyser, and a grandchild, Joel Lane Smyser. He is survived by his wife Virginia Lee and their five children; John "Jack" Smyser (Janet) of Co Bluffs, Twyla Ann Watson of Omaha, NE, Sharon (Jerry) Gross of Earling, Albert "Gene" Smyser (Darlene) of Sioux City, and Randall Smyser (Annette) of Rock Port, MO; 15 grandchildren, 23 great grandchildren; one sister, Betty (Charles) Thompson of Mesa, AZ; one brother, Leroy Smyser of Flosom, LA, and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Jan 6, 2001, at the Knutson Funeral Chapel, Avoca, with Mr. Wayne Paulsen officiating. Burial was in the Graceland Cemetery. Honorary casket bearers were Jeff Smyser, Jamie Smyser, Todd Gross, Jeremy Smyser, Craig Teut, Derek Teut, Jason Smyser, and Chad Smyser. Casket bearers were Steve Yates, Larry Wingert, Lester Showers, Ronnie Stoner, Ron Kay, and Tony McKenney.