

## Ronald Sornsen, 80

March 4, 1926 - Sept. 23, 2006

**AVOCA** — Ronald Roy Sornsen was born March 4, 1926, on a farm northwest of Avoca. He was the oldest son of Harry and Emma (Dethlefs) Sornsen. Ron attended school in Avoca and graduated from Avoca High School in 1944. He farmed with his dad and rented land for several years before joining the Army. He served from 1951 to 1953, and was stationed in Camp Rucker, AL and Korea. When he returned from the service, he again farmed with his dad.

Ron owned and operated a corn sheller, and worked at a service station. In 1967, he drove a semi for the Henry G. Nelsen Truck Line and later with the 8-Way Truck Line. He also drove cross-country for the Double "S" and V-T Truck Lines. He also worked for Paul Simonsen on the farm during spring work and harvest for six years. Ron tried to retire in 1991 but ended up working for the Hancock Fertilizer Co. He also drove a grain truck for the Hancock Elevator and helped Bob Emken farm the Carse farm for over 10 years. He finally retired in 2004 on his 78th birthday, and then began "running errands" for Gary Madden and Akers Auto Repair. He died Sept. 23, 2006, at Myrtue Medical Center at age 80 years, six months and 19 days.

Ron was preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by his brother, Gene Sornsen (Maxine); two nephews, Lynn Sornsen (Kari) of Dallas, TX and Steve Sornsen (Linda) of Ames; four great-nieces and great-nephew, Brooke of Las Vegas, NV; Ashley and Mallory Sornsen of Ames; Kirsten and Joshua Frank of Dallas, TX; and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Sept. 26, 2006, at Trinity Lutheran Church in Avoca, with Pastor Dennis Reich and Mr. Wayne Paulsen officiating. Burial was at the Graceland Cemetery with military graveside rites performed by Funston Post #227. Casket bearers were Lynn Sornsen, Steve Sornsen, Gary Madden, Charles Christensen, Bob Emken and Mark Smith. Knutson Family Chapel in charge of arrangements.

