

## Milton "Fat" Watson, 91

*Nov. 3, 1915 - June 20, 2007*

**PERSIA** — Milton Watson was born Nov. 3, 1915, on a farm southeast of Persia, to James and Clara (Bleyhl) Watson. He attended elementary school at Excelsior country school outside of Persia until eighth grade. He then attended Persia High School and for his senior year he transferred to Logan High School in order to receive Normal Training, graduating as a member of the class of 1934. After graduation, he worked as a teacher for several years at schools near Dunlap (North Picuayne) and later near Persia (Spring Creek).

Milton married his high school sweetheart, Velma Harmsen, May 1, 1937, in Logan. Velma and Milton had two children, Larry and Lynette. Shortly after their marriage, he began farming on the farm they rented and eventually purchased. They resided on this farm from 1938 until moving to Persia in 1985. During these years of farming, he also managed Bowles Grain Elevator for several years and worked as a crop adjuster for Farmers Mutual Hail Insurance Company for nearly eighteen years. He continued to assist his son Larry in farming until 2004. He taught Sunday School at the Methodist Church in Persia for many years and held various offices in the church. He died June 20, 2007, at age 91 years, seven months, and 17 days.

Milton was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Velma (1996); brothers and sisters, Lucille, Byron, James, and Monroe; and his great-granddaughter, Hannah deGroot. He is survived by his son, Larry Watson (Carol) of Persia, and his daughter, Lynette (Dr. Marvin) Dvorak of Omaha, NE; seven grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held June 25, 2007, at the United Methodist Church in Persia with Pastor Orris Drake officiating. Casket bearers were Robert Bradley, Kent Floerchinger, William Oloff, Steve Stamp, David Dvorak, and Jay Handbury. Burial was in the Valley View Cemetery in Persia. Pauley Jones Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

