

Hilmer Wiig, 86

Aug. 27, 1922 - Jan. 12, 2009

BANCROFT, NE — Hilmer was born on August 27, 1922 in Irwin, to Hjalmer Sigurd and Isabel (Nelson) Wiig. Hilmer was the third of eight children. He grew to manhood on the farm south of Irwin except for one unforgettable year spent in Pennsylvania. Hilmer graduated from Irwin High School in 1941 as Valedictorian of his class. He entered the U.S. Navy in 1944 and served in the South Pacific on the destroyer U.S.S. Stembel as a 3rd Class Petty Officer in the Quartermaster Corps. He was honorably discharged in May of 1946. Hilmer worked on the family farm south of Irwin until February 1947 when he went to work at the Farmer's Savings



Bank of Irwin, where he was employed for five years. In 1952 he moved to Beaver City, NE to work at the First State Bank of Beaver City.

During the year he spent in Beaver City he met and married Glendeen Naomi Link, the local music teacher, on June 14, 1953. After their marriage, Hilmer and Glendeen moved to Bancroft, NE, where Hilmer was hired to manage the First National Bank. This was a position he held for 36 years. He remained on the Bank's board of Directors until his death. Hilmer has been a member of the American Legion since his service discharge. He was Chief Executive Officer and Director of the First National Bank of Bancroft, Elder in the Bancroft Presbyterian Church, a member of the Board of Directors of the Pender Community Hospital, former member of the City Council and Cemetery Board, Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Isaac Walton League. Hilmer retired from the First National Bank in December of 1989. He was a superb fisherman and hunter and enjoyed collecting antiques, coins, bills, stamps and all things consisting of rocks, wood and nails. He spent most of his retirement gardening, fishing, camping and going to Country Musical Festivals with Glendeen. It has been heard said, "Hilmer can't play poker worth a darn, but he sure was a heck of a banker!" He died Jan. 12, 2009, at age 86.

Hilmer was preceded in death by his parents; an older sister, Thelma Nelson; three infant brothers; and one infant sister. He is survived by his wife, Glendeen (Corky); daughters, Trudy Wigg of Dallas, TX, and Leslie Gatzemeyer; son-in-law, Kurt Gatzemeyer; and grandchildren, Kristen, Jace, Jenae Gatzemeyer of Bancroft, NE; sisters, Dolores Mickelson of Harlan; and Gloria Kallevig and her husband, Carroll, of Irwin; and many nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

Funeral services were held Saturday, January 17, 2009, at the Bancroft Presbyterian Church in Bancroft, NE, with Pastor Charity Potter officiating. Burial was in the Bancroft Cemetery. Honorary casket bearers were Mary Vankirk, Kenny Knudson, Carroll Kallevig, W. Dale Burhoop, Tim Spoeneman, Melvin Knudson, Doc Engerman, Elmer

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Monson, Jim Yunek, and Rex Anderson. Casket bearers were Jace Gatzemeyer, Mike Nottleman, Blaine Bockelman, Travis Roth, Len Hermelbracht, Chris Samuels, Al Simonsen, and Roy Carlson. Munderloh Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

Funeral Home

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