

Lawrence E. Ted Cutler

Born: April 02, 1915

Died: May 01, 2004

Services will be held at: Tuesday, May 4, 2004 at 1:30 P.M. at the Honey Creek New Providence Friends Church with Reverend Arlen Daleske officiating. Burial will follow services at the Honey Creek Cemetery.

Ted Cutler was born April 2, 1915 in Sterling, Kansas the son of Lawrence and May (Cartmell) Cutler. He was raised and educated in New Providence where he graduated from high school in 1934. While in high school he played on winning basketball and baseball teams. He continued to be an interested observer of these and other sports throughout his lifetime. He married Vera Hadley in her parents' home in New Providence in 1938. They farmed in the Union and New Providence Communities for 42 years. Ted retired from farming in 1979 but they continued to live on the family farm where Ted enjoyed sharing the recreational aspects of his pond-side home with friends, neighbors and family. Watching the wildlife was another one of Ted's favorite activities. Ted was a member of the Honey Creek New Providence Friends Church, was a 4-H leader for many years, a board member of the original South Hardin / Union Telephone Company (Heart of Iowa) telephone cooperative, a longtime township trustee and an active conservationist. During his tenure on the telephone cooperative, the service changed from the old "ring" type party line to a rotary telephone with buried telephone lines. While he was a township trustee, New Providence acquired a new fire station and town hall. He favored farming using conservation as a guide. Most of his farming life he used no herbicides, pesticides or commercial fertilizer. He was one of the first farmers in Hardin County to use contour strip crop farming. His ideal method for building up the soil was hay, cows, and corn. Ted is survived by his wife Vera of New Providence, his son Jay Cutler and his wife Karen of Charles City, his daughter Linda Widmer and husband Ted of Mount Pleasant, his daughter-in-law, Becke (Cutler) Arnold and husband Gary of Oskaloosa, seven grandchildren and eleven great grandchildren. Ted was preceded in death by his parents, his son Steven Cutler in 1992 and his brother Jack Cutler in 1995.