

OBITUARIES

Wallace (Wally) Erickson, 81

Wallace (Wally) Erickson, son of Henry Edwin and Hilda Amanda Erickson, was born March 25, 1921, on his parents' farm near Mentor, MN and died Dec. 19, 2002 at the Mercy Hospice in Johnston, Iowa at the age of 81.

Wally was baptized and confirmed at the Rodness Lutheran Church in Erskine, MN. He attended Mentor Community Schools, graduating with the Class of 1939. He then moved to California where he was employed at the Lockheed Plant for a short time. He returned to Mentor following the death of his father to operate the family farm.

On Oct. 15, 1943, he was united in marriage to Norma McNutt at the Rodness Parsonage in Erskine. They farmed in Minnesota until they moved to Griswold, Iowa in 1951. Wally farmed for several years, then they moved into Griswold and he became the assistant manager at American Cyanamid. They were transferred to Exira where Wally went into partnership with Frank Derby and operated the Exira Farm Supply. Wally purchased Frank's interest, then operated the business until he

sold it in 1990. Wally then purchased the Exira Country Greenhouse until he retired and sold it on Jan. 1, 2001. Wally continued to work part time at the greenhouse.

Survivors include his wife, Norma, of Exira; his children Dean Erickson of Oklahoma City, OK; Linda and her husband, John Kuester of Los Gatos, CA; Kathryn and husband, Cliff Daugherty of Eldora; Judy and husband Mike Binter of Exira; Debbie Christensen and Larry Roberts of State Center. Grandchildren surviving include Zane and Zebediah Christensen, both of Blair, NE; Jake Roberts and Allie Roberts of State Center.

Preceding him in death were his grandson, Thaddeus Erickson; his parents; his step-father, Anton Skansen; his parents in law, Ollie and James McNutt; his brothers, Roger Erickson and Harold and his wife Jean Erickson; his brothers-in-law, Rolf Soderquist and Lyle Avenson.

Funeral services were held Monday, Dec. 23 at the Exira Lutheran Church with interment in the Exira Cemetery.