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April 19, 2002

A.B. Groomes

July 12, 1911, to March 6, 2002

A.B. Groomes, 90, of Adel, died March 6 of complications of a stroke.

He was born July 12, 1911, in Illinois and moved to Shipley with his parents at 2 years of age. As a young man he helped his parents on the farm and enjoyed baseball and basketball. He graduated from Shipley High School in 1929 and married his classmate Bessie Sutton on June 27, 1931, at the Little Brown Church in Nashua. They celebrated their 70th anniversary last June. They lived in the Shipley-Nevada area, farming for many years. He owned and operated the Shipley Grain and Bouton Grain elevator until his retirement at the age of 60. He and his wife were active members of the Indian Creek Country Club for many years. He would be on the golf course by 6 a.m. every day to play 18 holes, but really enjoyed 36 holes if he could "squeeze it in." He was honored in a Des Moines Register article when he was 77 for shooting a score of 39-38-77 and hitting a hole in one during an "over 50" golf tournament.

Survivors include two daughters, Janis (and Kermit) Coggshall of Dallas, Texas, and Marlys (and Doug) Brooks of Dallas Center; five granddaughters; six greatgrandchildren; one brother, Dale Groomes of Centerville; and a sister, Berniece Myers of Loma Linda, Calif.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Bessie; his parents; and two brothers, Glenn and Forrest.

Graveside services will be held Saturday, May 4, at 10 a.m. at the Nevada Municipal Cemetery. A memorial has been established in A.B.'s name.

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