

Austin Gress, 85

Walnut — Austin Gress, son of Bernhardt and Katherine Eichorn Gress, was born south of Walnut on May 31, 1891 and died Saturday, June 6, 1981 at Jennie Edmundson hospital, Co. Bluffs, at age 85 years.

He married Margery Schmidt Jan. 16, 1918. They farmed south of Walnut and later near Hancock. This union was blest with seven children. Mrs Gress died April 29, 1962. In 1963 he married Rosie Jensen, who died in 1968. Besides farming, he operated the Hancock Elevator for a number of years, retiring in 1961. He moved to the Peace Haven Home in 1974, and in Oct. 1980 became a resident of Oakland Manor. He was a member of the Hancock Methodist church and a 50 year member of the Odd Fellows Lodge.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife, one daughter, Dorothy Trulson, two sisters and six brothers. Survivors include two sons, Wilbur of Richland, Wash., and Cletus of Hancock; three daughters, Mrs Don (Wilma) Rader of Orlando, Fla., Mrs Don (Janice) Pash of Avoca, and Mrs John (Norma) Hester of Sheridan, Ark.; 19 grandchildren, 17 great grandchildren and one brother, Gilbert of Merrillville, Ind.

Funeral services were Tuesday, June 9, 1981 at the Hancock Methodist church, Rev. David Ohrt, officiating.

Burial was in the Oakhill cemetery in Hancock with Dennis Taylor, Mark Gress, Jeff Gress, Dave Johnson, Kevin Pash, Bruce Gress, Richard Hester, and Fred Trulson serving as casketbearers.