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## **Roger Bonnesen, 64**

*Feb. 17, 1943 - June 6, 2007*

**ATLANTIC** — Roger Eugene Bonnesen, son of Aage and Eleanora Larsen Bonnesen, was born Feb. 17, 1943, in Audubon. He was baptized at Bethany Lutheran Church northeast of Kimballton and confirmed at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Kimballton. He attended rural school at Mt. Zion, and then attended Audubon Community Schools, graduating with the Class of 1962.

Roger married Gloria Jacobsen July 1, 1962, at the Little Brown Church in Nashua. Three children, Randy, Michelle and Marcey, were born to this union. Roger was part owner of First-Line Auto Sales in Kimballton for a short time and then started farming. They farmed north of Kimballton from 1963 until 1975, then retired from farming and moved to Atlantic. Roger was employed at Capels Hardware for a short time and then was employed as a salesman for Valley Motor. In 1980 he started his own dealership called Nishna Auto Sales. He continued to operate the dealership until he retired in 2005. He had been a member of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Kimballton, and was a member of the Iowa Auto Dealers Association. He died June 6, 2007, at Creighton University Medical Center in Omaha, NE at age 64 years, three months and 19 days.

Roger was preceded in death by his father, Aage Bonnesen; his mother, Eleanora Nelson; and his fathers-in-law, Elmer Jacobsen and Alvin

Mortensen. He is survived by his wife, Gloria Bonnesen of Atlantic; his children, Randy Bonnesen (Donna) Bonnesen of Atlantic; Michelle (Todd) Martens of Griswold; and Marcey (Denny) Gerke of Newell; his grandchildren, Daniel Bonnesen and Kayla Bonnesen, both of Atlantic; Molly Martens and Matthew Martens, both of Griswold; and Erin Gerke and Tanner Gerke, both of Newell; mother-in-law, Erna Mortensen of Kimballton; and other relatives.

Funeral services were held June 9, 2007, at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Kimballton, with Pastor Tony Edé officiating. Burial was in the Immanuel Lutheran Cemetery in Kimballton. Honorary casket bearers were his grandchildren, Daniel Bonnesen, Kayla Bonnesen, Molly Martens, Matthew Martens, Erin Gerke and Tanner Gerke. Kessler Funeral Home in Audubon in charge of arrangements.