

## Harvey Nelsen, 98

*Nov. 24, 1903 - May 3, 2002*

**HARLAN** - Harvey Nelsen (born Hartvig Nelsen), son of Kristen Peter and Maren Kristine Kristensen Nielsen, was born Nov. 24, 1903, at Flauenskjold, Denmark. He attended school there until he was 10 years old when he went to work. He was baptized and confirmed in the Lutheran Church in Denmark. In 1925, he immigrated to the United States, settled in Irwin, and worked on several farms in Iowa and North Dakota.

Nov. 23, 1933, he married Pearl Irene Cunningham at the Harlan Methodist parsonage and started farming in Pottawattamie County. Two sons and one daughter were born to this union. After nine years, they purchased a farm northeast of Shelby, where they farmed for 27 years. In 1969, they retired and sold the farm and moved to Harlan. They moved to the Westridge Apartments in Harlan in August 2001 and celebrated their 68<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary Nov. 23, 2001. Harvey was a member of the Shelby Lutheran Church until they moved to Harlan, where he joined the First United Methodist Church and was a member of the Builders Class. Harvey was a member of the Danish Brotherhood. He started the first 4-H Club in the Shelby area and was a leader for several years. He also played the accordion. He also worked with wood and built many birdhouses and had them for sale. He died May 3, 2002, at Myrtue Memorial Hospital at age 98 years, five months and nine days.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by five sisters, Anna Mortensen, Olga Pedersen, Mine Nielsen, Herdis Mikaelson and Esther Andersen; four brothers, Emanuel Nielsen, Chris Nelsen, Fred Nielsen and Viggo Nielsen, and one stepbrother, Richard Paulsen. He is survived by his wife, Pearl I. Nelsen of Harlan; his children, Melvin Nelsen (Myrna) of Shelby; Norman D. Nelsen (Sandy) and Darlene (Wayne) Arnold of Harlan; nine grandchildren; 16 great grandchildren; one half-sister, Glenda (Franklin) Hanson of Omaha, NE; three stepsisters, Gerda Christensen and Lillian Paulsen of Harlan and Norma (Arion) Christensen of Bend, OR; two sisters-in-law, Gladys Sams of Avoca and Herdis Nielsen of Kimballton; nieces and nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held May 8, 2002, at the United Methodist Church in Harlan, with the Rev. Paul Wilcox officiating. Burial was in the Harlan Cemetery with Dan Nelsen, Franklin Hanson, Brian Arnold, Kenneth Berg, Steve Nelsen and Bob Harmsen casket bearers. Pauley Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

-----