

## Richard Williamson, 77

April 5, 1932 - Feb. 9, 2010

**ELK HORN** — Richard Lee Williamson, son of John Claude and Helen (Thomsen) Williamson, was born on April 5, 1932, in Castana. He attended Castana High School and graduated with the class of 1950. After graduating from high school, Richard enlisted in the United States Army where he served during the Korean War.

March 1, 1953, Richard was united in marriage to Faye Hansen in Turin. Four children were born to this union: Kenneth, Janet, Dale, and Lori. After their wedding, Richard and Faye made their home in Castana, where Richard farmed and sold seed corn for

Funks Seed Corn as the District Sales Manager. In 1969, Richard and Faye moved their family to Harlan, where Richard continued to sell for Funks Seed Corn until the early 1970's when he bought the Highway Motel and Zodiac Lounge in Harlan. After selling the motel and lounge, Richard began driving truck for Mau Trucking in Ida Grove, where he worked for several years until his retirement in 1998.

April 23, 1993, Richard was united in marriage to Verlene Parkis at the Little Brown Church in the Vale at Nashua. Richard and Verlene made their home Fontanelle. When Richard wasn't busy working, he enjoyed square dancing, camping, and socializing. He was a people person and enjoyed being around his friends and family. Richard also enjoyed fishing and took a couple trips to Canada and Alaska. Richard died on Tuesday, February 9, 2010, at Salem Lutheran Nursing Home in Elk Horn, having attained the age of seventy-seven years, ten months, and four days.

Richard is preceded in death by his parents and one granddaughter. He is survived by his children: Kenneth Williamson and his wife Elizabeth of Austintown, OH; Janet and her husband Farrell Zimmerman of Harlan; Dale Williamson and his wife Janne and Lori and her husband John Finken all of Kansas City, MO; eleven grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; his sister Joan Nixon of Mapleton; other family members and many friends.

Memorial services were held on Thursday, February 11, 2010, at Salem Lutheran Homes Chapel in Elk Horn. Kathy Soetmelk officiated the 2:00 PM service. Private inurnment at Kennebec Cemetery in rural Castana, will be held at a later date.



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