

I wanted to include this Schmidt story. Grandpa Schmidt had a tree in the middle of a field on his farm and called it Ellen's tree. Grandpa said Aunt Ellen had planted that tree and after her death he farmed around it to save it for her memory. Since that, Uncle Harvey farmed there and planted around the tree. Then Eva and her husband lived there and plowed around the tree. Now, Eva's son, Jack, is on that farm and he has left the tree alone and plows around it. Jack says he will farm around it for Aunt Ellen's memory. When Leone & Eva cleaned out Aunt Lucy's house, Jack asked for Aunt Lucy's big picture of Aunt Ellen. He said he felt he should have her picture as he sees her tree daily. So he has Aunt Ellen's picture. Jack was told by some pilots using the small airport in Sheldon that they use the tree as a guide to find the Sheldon airport so after that Jack said he surely would keep the tree. Recently, when we went to Sheldon we went past the Schmidt Farm to look at Ellen's tree. It is alone in the middle of a field.

Author & Date Unknown

(This tree was originally planted on their family farm in a pasture along the fence line. The pasture and fence line are long gone; however, this tree continues to stand tall & proud & alone in the middle of a cornfield - 93 years later)

Jean Wigdahl  
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