

Ronald Elias, 72

Feb. 17, 1930 – April 25, 2002

PERSIA – Ronald Nichlos Elias was born Feb. 17, 1930, in Persia, son of Floyd and Adel Sullayman Elias and was one of four boys in the family and attended school in Persia.

Ronald married Frances Spracklin June 16, 1951, in Council Bluffs. In 1952, they started a business in Mapleton called Ronny's Red and White Store. He and Frances worked in that store for five years and then bought a store in Ute. A fire destroyed it in 1964 and the people of Ute asked them to rebuild. In 1965, they had a new store with a Laundromat in the front, the grocery store in the middle and a car wash in the back. They were running two businesses at once. In June of 1970, they adopted their daughter, Ronda Frances Elias. In 1986, the family moved to Persia. Even though Ron's health was failing he did manage to have a dog kennel for seven years. In 1993, he was put on dialysis three times a week. In 2000, he suffered a stroke and was moved to the Dunlap Care Center. Ronald died in his sleep April 25, 2002, at the Dunlap Care Center at age 72 years, two months and eight days.

His parents and one brother preceded him in death. He is survived by his wife, Frances of Persia; his daughter, Ronda (Daniel) Frost of Des Moines; his granddaughter, Mackenzie; two brothers, Sam Elias (Josephine) of Orange, CA and Norman Elias (Cleo) of Persia, and other relatives.

Funeral services were held April 29, 2002, at the Persia Methodist Church with Pastor Orris Drake officiating. Burial was in the Valley View Cemetery. Casket bearers were Craig Elias, Sam Elias, James Youmans, Mark Elias, Vernon Else and Kenny Perrin. Knutson Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.