

## Allyn Erb, 86

*Jan. 30, 1918 - Dec. 5, 2004*

**IRWIN** — Allyn Charles Erb, son of Bert and Lydia Alwill Erb, was born Jan. 30, 1918, on the family farm east of Irwin in Shelby County. He attended country school near his home in Jefferson Township and then started farming with his father.

May 4, 1941, Allyn married Thelma Evelyn Wetzel. They lived on a farm east of Irwin just a short distance from where he was born. Six children were born to this union. In the early years, Allyn farmed with horses and he maintained an interest in horses throughout his life. He raised crops and livestock with cattle being his primary interest. His wife died Sept. 11, 1974. He was a member of the United Methodist Church in Irwin. He served as a Jefferson Township Trustee for many years and also served on the school board of the Jefferson Township rural school near his home. He was a member of the Shelby County Pork Producers and Cattleman's Association.

Sept. 25, 1976, Allyn married Leona Fairchild Ferry. They continued to live on his farm east of Irwin where Allyn actively farmed until 2001. As Allyn's health began to fail, he continued to be interested in the farming operation and was not interested in moving into town. He died at home Dec. 5, 2004 at age 86 years, 10 months and 5 days.

Preceding Allyn in death are his parents; first wife, Thelma; son, Gary Erb; daughter, Gloria Huff; 2 grandsons, Nathan Erb and Christopher Ferry; and sister, Mildred Doyel. He is survived by his wife, Leona Erb of Irwin; four children: Dennis Erb (Judy) of Irwin; Sharon (Dick) Monson of Harlan; Diana (Bill) Barton of Omaha, NE; and Roger Erb (Carol) of Harlan; daughter-in-law, Myrna Erb Gundel of Fontanelle; son-in-law, Dan Huff of California; 23 grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; two stepchildren, Linda (Dennis) Wildner of Omaha, NE and Tom Ferry (Cheryl) of Harlan; 2 sisters-in-law, Vernie Wetzel of Manning and Ilo (Wayne) Miller of Ankeny; 2 brothers-in-law, Albert Wetzel (Jeanette) of Bayard and Ivan Wetzel (Marlys) of Badger; nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Dec. 9, 2004, at the United Methodist Church in Irwin, with Pastor Keith Pals officiating. Burial was in the Oak Hill Cemetery. Honorary casket bearers were his grandchildren, Rhonda Erb, Michelle Huff, Melanie Huff, Melissa Huff, Jamie Erb, Chevonne Monson, Matt Ferry, Dan Ferry, Joni Wildner, Lori Lentsch, Katie Rasmussen, Casey Muller, Matthew Rasmussen and Chris Michelson. Casket bearers were his grandsons, Brian Erb, Kevin Erb, Sean Monson, Brandon Monson, Derek Monson, Jason Erb, Michael Huff, A.J. Barton and Tyler Barton. Ohde Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.