

Emmert Steen, 85

Dec. 29, 1920 - Feb. 13, 2006

ELK HORN — Hans Emmert, son of Hans and Anna Katrine (Hansen) Steen, was born Dec. 29, 1920, in Audubon County near Gray. He graduated from Gray High School and then helped on the family farm. From Oct. 19, 1942 to Jan. 17, 1946, Emmert served as a crew chief with the Army Air Corps as a Sergeant.

Dec. 15, 1943, Emmert married Neoma Louise Larsen at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Audubon. Following Emmert's honorable discharge from the service, he started and managed the Farm Service Coop in Audubon. He then worked as a district field representative for Affiliated Companies of Farm Bureau in Northwest Iowa, and he and Neoma resided in Spencer. In 1953, Emmert and Neoma moved to Elk Horn, and Emmert and his brother, Ed, owned and operated Steen Produce and Feed until their retirement in 1993. He was a Pioneer and Purina dealer for 40 years. He was a member of Elk Horn Lutheran Church, Danish Mill Corporation, The Danish Immigrant Museum, American Legion Post 322 and the Better Elk Horn Club. He also served on many boards for several years including: Shelby County School Board, Shelby County Hospital Board, Shelby County Fair Board, charter Board member of the Shelby County Health Foundation and the local Salvation Army chapter. He also served as a 4-H leader, church deacon and as a member of the volunteer fire department and the Kimballton Corn Husking Committee. In November of 2003, he became a resident of Salem Lutheran Homes in Elk Horn where he died Feb. 13, 2006, at age 85 years, one month and 15 days.

Emmert was preceded in death by his parents, four brothers, Cameron, Arthur, Leonard and Edward Steen; and two sisters, Ethel Steen and Esther Steen Keyes. He is survived by his wife of 62 years Neoma Steen of Elk Horn; five children, Alan Steen (Susan) of Fullerton, NE, Daniel Steen (Tricia) of Gladbrook, JoNell Block of Elk Horn; John Steen of Elk Horn; and Lisa (Michael) Riggs of Elk Horn; eight grandchildren, Nikki (John) Bricker; Nathan Steen and fiancée, Elizabeth MacGuire; Mindi (Clifford) Fincham; Sarah Steen; Andrew Steen; Teckla (Ray) Coven; Megan Riggs and Katrina Riggs; three great-grandchildren, Cayden Coven, Ashton Fincham and Emily Jo Bricker; sisters-in-law Sharlotte Steen and Anna (Dr. Richard) Berg; brothers-in-law, Dr. Lawrence Larsen (Jane); Dr. Peter Larsen (Inetta); Dr. Arnold Larsen (Dorothy Ann), and Dr. Phillip Larsen (Sandy); cousins, nieces and nephews in both the USA and Denmark.

Funeral services were held Feb. 17, 2006, at the Elk Horn Lutheran Church with Reverend Keith Menter officiating. Burial was in the Elk Horn Lutheran Cemetery with Military Honors by American Legion Post 322, Elk Horn. Casket bearers were all of Emmert's grandchildren. Ohde Funeral Home in Kimballton in charge of arrangements.

