

## Edward Swensen, 88 ✓

March 29, 1918 - July 18, 2006

**EXIRA** — Edward Swensen, the son of Andrew and Emma Degn Swensen, was born March 29, 1918, at his parents' home in Shelby County. He was baptized at the Christian Church in Exira. He attended rural school in Audubon Township and Greeley Township (Greeley #9) in Audubon County. Ed worked for Kozy Manufacturing for several years then moved to Omaha, NE, and worked there for several years. Feb. 20, 1942, he was inducted into the United States Navy. During his tour of duty he served with the 3rd Army 4th Armored Division in the European Theater. As a scout corporal with the 35th Tank Battalion he was cited for notorious service in combat and was awarded the Bronze Star Medal. Sept. 22, 1945, he was honorably discharged and returned to Exira where he was employed at Minerwan Motors as a mechanic.

Feb. 14, 1946, Edward married Marjorie Rumelhart Buttler in Troy, KS. He continued to work as a mechanic at the Ford garage, and then later was employed at Kozy Manufacturing. In 1962, he started working for the City of Exira as the utility supervisor overseeing water and waste management. He worked for the city full-time, then part-time retiring in 1997. He owned and operated a sharpening business. Ed moved to the Exira Care Center in June of 2006. He was a member of the Exira Christian Church and served as an Elder, the Ballou Post No. 332, American Legion in Exira and was a member of the Isaac Walton League which later became the Audubon County Conservation Club and had served as treasurer for many years. He died July 18, 2006, at the Exira Care Center at age 88 years, three months and 19 days.

Preceding Ed in death were his parents; his sisters, Leona Jensen and Helen Hansen; his brothers-in-law, Robert Hansen, Raymond Barnholdt, Lester Andersen, Hubert Jensen, Ronald Childers and Leland and wife, Olive Rumelhart. Survivors include his wife, Marjorie Swensen of Exira; his stepchildren, Kenneth "June" (Arliiss) Buttler of Guthrie Center; Phyllis (Charles) Kline of Harlan; his step-grandchildren, Rick (Martha) Buttler of Guthrie Center; Lela (Dean) Ford of Oakridge, TN; Ann (Randy) Doran of Harlan; Charles (Jean) Kline of Omaha, NE; David (Patty) Kline of Omaha, NE; 16 step great-grandchildren; two step great-great-grandchildren; sisters and brothers, Virginia Barnholdt of Audubon; Mary Childers of Satellite Beach, FL; Eugene (Betty) Swensen of York, PA; nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Robert Hennick July 22, 2006, at the Exira Christian Church. Burial was in the Exira Cemetery with military graveside services conducted by Ballou Post No. 332, American Legion, Exira. Casket bearers were Dean Ford, Randy Doran, Charles Kline, David Kline, Rick Buttler, Chris Buttler, Randy Doran, Jr., and Michael Ford. Kessler Funeral Home in Exira, in charge of arrangements.