



Bernard Gehrke

March 23, 1915 - July 11, 2008

Bernard was born March 23, 1915, in Guthrie Center, Iowa, the son of Emil K. and Tessa D. Shoesmith Gehrke. He was united in marriage to Elsie M. Hermansen on May 18, 1941 at Fredsville Lutheran Church, rural Cedar Falls, Iowa.

Bernard farmed near Fredsville, in rural Cedar Falls from 1941 to 1965 and then near Garrison, Iowa, retiring in 1982.

He is survived by his wife, Elsie of Waterloo, IA; a son Jerry (Carol Schwennesen) Gehrke of Vashon Island, WA; a daughter Joann (Bruce) Wingert of Cedar Falls; ten grandchildren, Janie Ritter-Friesen, Jenifer Henke, Jeff Gehrke, Todd Gehrke, Sarah Mims, Malinda Gehrke, April Parkhurst, Brian Wingert, Jessica Wingert and Brooke Gehrke; six great grandchildren, Jennah and David Price, Hannah, Ryan and Taylor Gehrke, and Ryan Parkhurst; three sisters, Ellen Gleason of Dallas, TX, Irene Mussleman of Des Moines, IA, Alma (Al) Hoepker of Creston, IA; and a brother Loren (Marilyn) Gehrke of Clarksdale, MO.

Bernard died Friday, July 11, 2008 at Allen Memorial Hospital, Waterloo.

Preceding him in death were a son David Gehrke; a grandson, Michael Gehrke; two brothers, Dean and Linn Gehrke; and a sister, Mabel Landers.