Donald "Runt" McCulley, 95

Donald "Runt" McCulley, 95, of Brooklyn and formerly of Keswick, died Saturday, June 26, 2010, at the Brooklyn Community Estate with his beloved wife by his side. Funeral services were held at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, June 29, at the Harden Funeral Chapel in What Cheer. Interment followed at the Sixteen Cemetery near Thornburg. Memorial contributions may be made to the family.

Donald James McCulley was born on Sept. 24, 1914, near Thornburg, the son of John and Catherine Capehart McCulley. He was the fifth child of 14 children. He attended the Greenview country school and later graduated from the Gibson High School in 1934. Donald was united in marriage to Elaine Furney on June 27, 1935, at the Methodist Church in Unionville, Mo. In 1945, he began managing his family's farm while caring for his ailing parents. Donald remained on the farm until 2002, when he and his wife moved to the Brooklyn Senior Apartments.

He enjoyed watching traffic under his shade tree, Lawrence Welk on Saturday nights, many fishing trips to Minnesota and Canada and telling stories of the past to his family and friends.

Donald is preceded in death by his parents; seven brothers: Vernon, Marvin, William, Kenneth, David, Harlan and Bessie McCulley (infant); three sisters: Elizabeth Acord, Margaret Sampson and Catherine McCulley (infant); three sisters-in-law: Lena, Marlys, Elsie McCulley; four brothers-in-law: Harry Acord, Francis Williams, Marvin Sampson and Jack James; as well as a nephew, Richard McCulley; and niece, Neva Allen.

He is survived by his wife, Elaine of Brooklyn; two daughters, Glenda (Fred) Griffith of Brooklyn and Connie (Raymond) Thompson of Montezuma; a brother, Robert McCulley, Sr. of Brooklyn; two sisters, Jean Williams of Barnes City and Helen James of New Sharon; four sisters-in-law, Margaret, Barbara, Marie and Barbara McCulley; eight grandchildren: Tina Widmer, Sara Alexander, Tami Pothier, Rodney Morse, Jake Thompson, Crystal Griffith, Chance Griffith and Trilly Petsche. Donald also leaves behind 13 great-grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews.

PCC 6-30-10