Henry Rolffs, 78, Sully

Henry Rolffs, 78, of Sully passed away Nov. 16, 2006. Funeral services were held Nov. 20, at the Sully Christian Reformed Church. Interment was held at Sully Cemetery. Memorials can be given to the Sully Christian Grade School.

Henry Louis Rolffs was born on Nov. 20, 1927, at his parents' residence south of Sully. He was the first of eight children that were born to Dick and Minnie Jansen Rolffs. Formal education was not an interest of Henry and as a young lad he continued living with his parents on the farm near Sully and Lynndylle. He and Hermina Ann Arkema met at a roller skating party in Grinnell, and on Dec. 13, 1949, they were united in marriage at the residence of her parents', Oney and Katie Bruxvoort Arkema, south of Sully. To this union six children were born: Randall Dean, Merlan Jay, Dale Louis, Brent H., Scott Edwin and Rose Ann. Following their marriage the family lived near Lynndylle and Taingo, where “Hank”, as he was known, began farming. In 1974 he began driving truck. Hank was active in farming and particularly enjoyed raising cattle until 1989 at which time he retired from farming and he and Hermina moved into Sully. He continued, however, livestock trucking for Lynndylle Transport which he was doing at the time of his sudden death.

Those who will cherish his memory are his wife of 56 years, Hermina; their six children and their spouses, 18 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. They and their families are: Randy and Aleda (De Ronde) Rolffs of Pella, Deanna and Kevin Rolffs-Elzinga, Brad and Erin Rolffs, Josh, Jaden Rolffs, Russ Rolffs; Merlan and Sue (Bergeson) Rolffs of Pella, Sarah and Adam Hartig, Aiden Hartig, Lindsay Rolffs, Matthew Rolffs, Luke Rolffs; Dale and Carolyn (Conover) Rolffs of Lynndylle, Alaina and Kennan Archer, Trent Rolffs; Brent and Brenda (Hackert) Rolffs of Sully, Tyler Rolffs, Ashley Rolffs; Scott and Valerie (Baards) Rolffs of Lynndylle, Corey Rolffs, Cole Rolffs, Aimee Rolffs; Rose and Rod Tayek of Sully, Katelyn Kiehl, Rebecca Kiehl, Amanda Kiehl, Samantha Tayek.

Of his original family Henry leaves all his sisters and brothers and their spouses. They are: Janet and Guy Jansen of Pella, Cornelis and Wilbur Vos of Sully, John and Shirley Rolffs of Wilmar, Minnesota, Dorothy and Marion Vos of Oskaloosa, Mildred and Louis Lander of Newton, and Marvin and Janice Rolffs of Oskaloosa. Henry leaves two step-sisters and two step-brothers and the following sisters-in-law and brothers-in-law: Iva (John Arkema) Harthoorn of Grinnell, Marjorie (Arkema) Van Gorp of Leighton, Bernard and Cornelia Arkema of Sully, Earl and Betty Dykema of Cedar Rapids, June and William Rozendaal of Pella, Alan Arkema of Grand Rapids, Michigan, Nelson Arkema of Sully, Grace and Harris Van Kooten of Pella, Lewis and Jean Arkema of Sioux Center, and Edwin and Leona Arkema of Cedar Rapids.

Henry was preceded in death by a granddaughter, Laura Rolffs, an infant daughter of Merlan and Sue Rolffs; a great-granddaughter, Amarie Rolffs, a daughter of Lindsay Rolffs; a brother, Dale Eugene, who died in infancy in 1945; his parents, Dick and Minnie Rolffs; and his step-mother, Henrietta (Van Kooten) Nieuwsma Rolffs. Henry was nearly a lifelong and faithful member of the Sully Christian Reformed Church in Sully.