
Bert Benskin

Bert I. Benskin, 94, of Laurel died Tuesday, July 25, at Marshalltown Medical and Surgical Center of complications following a stroke.

Funeral services will be at 1:30 p.m. Friday at Laurel United Methodist Church, Zion Center, with the Rev. Terri Lin Elder officiating. Burial will be in Graceland Cemetery, Laurel, with the Wallace-Pence Funeral home of Newton in charge of arrangements.

He was born in Jasper County northwest of Newton on Jan. 16, 1895, the son of Joseph and Sophia Iske Benskin. He attended rural school and Mariposa No. 5 (Center School). Mr. Benskin was a resident of Laurel for 50 years and had also lived in Akaska, S.D., from 1910 to 1914.

He was married to Daisy I. Paul Dec. 22, 1915, who preceded him in death. He was married to Lowilda W. Bollhoefer May 31, 1967, in Marshalltown.

Mr. Benskin attended the Laurel United Methodist Church. He was a member of the Laurel Lions Club and a 50-year, seventh-degree member of Mariposa Grange No. 2167. He had also served on the Mariposa School Board. He was a retired farmer and Agri Seed salesman.

Surviving are his wife, Lowilda; one son, Wendell of Laurel; a daughter, Bernice McElree of El Paso, Texas; five grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren; and a brother, Harley of Laurel. He was preceded in death by his parents; his first wife, Daisy; a brother, Curtis; and a sister, Elsie Paul.