

Edward C. Bolen, Former Farmer In Area, Dies

Edward C. Bolen, 92, former Grinnell farmer, died Feb. 17 at his home in Tama.

Funeral services were held Feb. 19 at Tama with the Rev. George D. Gaide, pastor of the Tama Methodist church, officiating. Interment was in Sheridan cemetery.

Edward Charles Bolen, son of Michael F. and Ann Thompson Bolen, was born Oct. 22, 1869, on a farm in Madison township, Poweshiek county. When he was a small child his family moved to a farm in Sheridan township where he was reared and grew to manhood. He attended Sheridan No. 6 rural school.

On Nov. 10, 1892, at age 23, he married Sarah Belle Dotson of Colfax, the wedding taking place at the home of her parents in Colfax. They began their married life on an 80-acre farm which he purchased south of the Sheridan store, now the George Simmons place. They lived there only a short time, and then Mr. Bolen bought a 160-acre farm one mile east and one-half mile north in Sheridan township. He farmed this place for many years and was also a stock buyer.

Leaving the farm, he and his wife spent a few years in Grinnell, then returned to Sheridan.

He served as Sheridan township assessor and as township trustee for many years. He was a 55-year member of the IOOF lodge of Tama.

Mr. and Mrs. Bolen enjoyed 57 years of married life.

He is survived by two daughters, Mrs. Letha Lynch, Tama and Mrs. Leonard (Stella) Soth Westchester, Ill.; three grandchildren, Sherrill Lynch, La Grange, Ill., Gene Soth, Meadowdale, Ill., Robert Soth, Long Beach, Calif.; five great grand children, Melvin and Jane Lynch, LaGrange, Ill., and Leslie, Debbie and Elliott Soth Meadowdale, Ill.

A daughter, Bessie Mae, preceded him in death at age 21 years.

Mr. Bolen was the last of family of seven children. Preceding him in death were brother, William M. Bolen, of Brooklyn; twin brothers in infancy; three sisters, Libbi Gross, Malcom, Grace Heishman Porter and Dolly Wichmar both of Grinnell.