

Obituary

Henry Nieuwsma, 80, Pella

Henry Nieuwsma, the second of four children that were born to Rense and Anna Vander Molen

Nieuwsma, was born on Nov. 26, 1927, near Peoria.

He attended the Peoria Christian Grade School.

Henry was drafted into the Armed

Forces of the

United States of America in March of 1951 and served with the Army Reserve until his honorable discharge in April of 1957. Following his discharge Henry returned to the family farm 2 miles northwest of Peoria.

On June 3, 1969, he was united in marriage with Sylvia Jean Fopma, a daughter of Simon and Jennie Jansen Fopma, at the Sully Christian Reformed Church in Sully, Iowa. Henry continued farming the family farm his entire working lifetime. Although they retired in 1996 and moved into Pella, Henry was still 'farming.' He listened to the markets daily



H. Nieuwsma

and kept many, many records. Henry and Sylvia enjoyed traveling during their married lifetime. They had traveled extensively in Europe and their last trip was to the Panama Canal.

On Saturday morning, December 1, 2007, Henry passed away unexpectedly on arrival at the Pella Regional Health Center in Pella having just celebrated his 80th birthday. Those who will cherish his memory are his wife, Sylvia; his sister, Margy Ann and her husband, Kenneth Fynaardt of Pella; his sister-in-law, Frances (Gerald Nieuwsma) and her husband, Marvin Walraven of Oskaloosa, Iowa; the following sisters-in-law and brother-in-law: Kathleen (Charles) Fopma of Pella, Grace (Fopma) and Harold Beyer of Sully, Theda (Bernie) Fopma of Grinnell, Iowa and Wally (Donald) Fopma of Pella; and several nieces and nephews. Henry leaves his very, good friends, Dennis and Donna Van Wyk of New Sharon, Iowa and their family: Drew and Heidi Van Wyk and Denae Van Wyk of New Sharon, Dacia and Dustin Prins and their son, Troy of Fort Dodge,

Iowa.

Henry was preceded in death by his parents: Rense and Anna Nieuwsma; his parents-in-law: Simon and Jennie Fopma; a brother, Henry, who died in infancy and his brother Gerald Nieuwsma who passed away June 27, 1960. Henry was baptized at the Peoria Christian Reformed Church in Peoria where he later made profession of his faith. He and Sylvia had been members of the Peoria Christian Reformed Church in Peoria for many years where he had served as a deacon and an elder. At the time of his death they were members of the Covenant Reformed Church in Pella. Henry appreciated listening to Christian gospel music and was able to play the piano. He did volunteer work for the Christian Reformed World Relief Committee. During his retirement he enjoyed playing cards and fishing. "Would you believe" Henry was a friend to everyone.

For those desiring, memorials may be given to the Bible League or to Wycliffe Bible Translators for the support of the Doug & Benita LeMahieu family.

DT 2/13/08