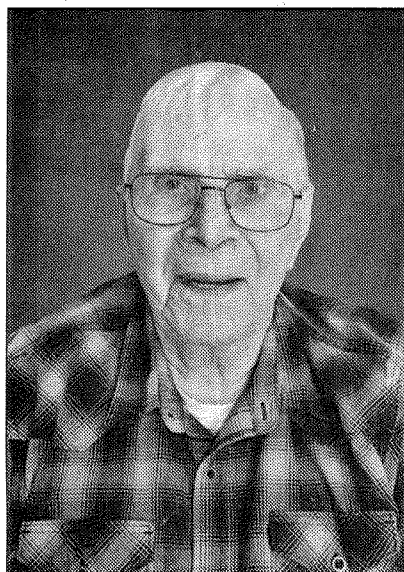


Billy Sam Martin



Billy Sam Martin, 95, of Gibbon and formerly of Grinnell, died Friday, April 11, 2025, at Mt. Carmel Keens Memorial Home in Kearney, Neb.. Funeral services will be at 10:30 a.m. Friday, April 18, at the O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral Home in Kearney. Interment will follow at Riverside Cemetery in Gibbon with military honors provided by American Legion Post #310 in conjunction with the Nebraska National Guard Funeral Honors Team. Visitation will be 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday at O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral Home in Kearney.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are suggested to Bethel United Methodist Church, Kearney Noon Rotary or to Mt. Carmel Keens Memorial Home. Condolences may be shared online at www.osrfh.com. Services are entrusted to O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral and Cremation Services.

Billy Sam Martin was born in Ada, Okla., to Andrew Jackson and Sina Kathryn Anderson Martin of Fitzhugh, Okla., on Nov. 1, 1929, the eighth in his family.

He graduated from Pauls Valley, Okla., High School in 1947, received

an associate degree at Cameron Junior College in Lawton, Okla., and graduated from Oklahoma A & M of Stillwater in 1951 with a major in agriculture education and a minor in animal husbandry.

He taught vocational agriculture in the Fleming, Colo., high school for one year before entering the U. S. Army. He served from 1952 to 1954, stationed at Camp Roberts, Calif., Ft. Benning, Ga., and Fort Bragg, N.C. He served in the 77th and 99th Special Forces Units, and completed jump school at Ft. Benning. He was discharged in 1954 and accepted a job as vocational agriculture teacher in Cozad, Neb. On June 18, 1955, he married Janice Randall and the couple moved to Gibbon, Neb., where he taught vocational agriculture for three years. In 1958, he became a district sales representative for the Ralston Purina Company with an area in Central Nebraska, and the couple moved to Fairbury, Neb., one year and then to Holdrege, Neb., where their eldest daughter was born. In 1968, the family moved to Grinnell, where their second daughter was born. At that time Bill served as a district sales manager for Allied Mills, Wayne Feeds. In 1972, a feed and grain business, Grinnell Feeders Service, was purchased and he continued in that business until moving to the Gibbon area in 1981, where the family established a home northwest of Gibbon.

Memberships in organizations included Rotary Club in Grinnell and Kearney, Iowa Grain and Feed Board, Chamber of Commerce in Grinnell and membership and leadership offices in United Methodist Churches in the communities where the family lived.

He is survived by his wife, Janice; daughter Sina; one grandchild; and other relations.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brothers Jack, Barclay and Raymond; sisters Thelma, Laura, Josephine and Oberia; and daughter, Jill Renee.