

Orville E. Connell

Funeral services were held Saturday morning, July '11, in the Nevenhoven Funeral Home, Brooklyn, for Orville E. Connell, 83, of Brooklyn who died Tuesday, July 7, 1998, in Covington Heights Health and Rehabilitation Center, Sioux Falls, S.D.

The Rev. William B. Daylong pastor of the Grace United Methodist Church, officiated and the organist was Marilyn Kriegel. Casket bearers were Brian Claus, Jim Johnson, Terry Johnson, Randy Haman, Robert McCulley Jr., and Roger Van Ervelde. Honorary casket bearers were Woodrow Boyd and Robert McCulley. Flower attendants were Mr. and Mrs. Valere Lavent. Interment was in the Brooklyn Memorial Cemetery with military rites conducted by Francis Gallagher American Legion Post #294.

Orville Ellsworth Connell, son of Thomas Quinter Connell and Rebecca Barbara Niswander Connell, was born Feb. 24, 1915, on the Connell homestead near Brooklyn.

He graduated from the Brooklyn High School in 1934 and attended business college in Cedar Rapids in 1936.

Orville served with the U.S. Army from March 1941 to December 1945. He was with the 14th Cavalry Regiment until it was turned into an armored division. Serving with the 2nd Cavalry, 9th Armored Division 711 Tank Battalion, he landed on Okinawa on April 1, 1945. Orville was a gunner with the 711th as they were known as the "Tracked Demons."

On Dec. 5, 1942, he married Viola Mae Weaver in Manhattan, Kan.

He farmed upon return from the war. They moved to Glendale, Ariz., in 1960, returning to the farm in 1961. Orville carpentered for D.W. Hubbard from 1961-1966. He joined the carpenter's union of Iowa City in 1966 and retired in 1977.

He was a member of Francis Gallagher American Legion Post #294, Brooklyn.

He was preceded in death by his wife in 1986, and five brothers and one sister.

He is survived by his daughter and her husband, Lisa and Lyle Johnson of Sioux Falls, S.D., and two granddaughters, Tina, Mrs. Brian Claus of Bellevue, Neb., and Julie of Vermillion, S.D.

A memorial fund has been established for the Brooklyn Activity Center.

BC July 15, 1998