



Howard C. Petersen

July 6, 1919 - September 2, 2009

Howard Christian Petersen, son of H.C. and Marie (Grau) Petersen was born July 6, 1919 in Newell, Iowa. He was baptized and confirmed at the Nain Lutheran Church in Newell. Howard attended Providence Consolidated School, where he graduated in 1937. Howard joined the Army Air Corps on February 17, 1942 where he served his country until he was honorably discharged on December 12, 1945. On February 13, 1946, Howard was united in marriage to Loraine Lenz. This union was blessed with four children: Debbe, Patricia, Howard and T. Greg. After the death of Loraine in 1991, he was united in marriage to Eula Johnson on January 9, 1993. The bulk of Howard's working life was in agribusiness, concluding with 16 years at the Newell Coop Elevator, retiring in 1982. His love of gardening, wine making, and cooking often brought friends and family around Howard's table. His culinary endeavors, aided by his numerous kitchen gadgets, earned him the name of "The Gadget Guru" by his step-children. His enjoyment of ballroom dancing, practical jokes, and his fun loving ways have left many anecdotes to share. Howard passed away peacefully at his home in Newell on September 2, 2009. He is survived by his wife, Eula; his children: Debbe Bircher of Winter Garden, Florida; Patricia (Dennis) Arnold of Iowa City, Iowa; Howard (Mary Giles) Petersen of Bend, Oregon; Greg (Kim) Petersen of Garner, North Carolina; grandchildren: Sara and Tina Bircher; Quentin (Marjorie) Arnold; Justin (Christina Merwin) Arnold; Jenni (John) Saterfiel; Brandon Dean, Alisa and Kessia Petersen; great grandchildren: Miranda

Bircher; Zain and Soren Arnold; Juliet Curtis; five step-sons: Mike (Patrice) Johnson of Lenexa, Kansas; Layne (Mary) Johnson of Conroe, Texas; Rod (Diane) Johnson of Newell; Jay (Gina) Johnson of Huxley, Iowa; Jim (Carolyn) Johnson of Houston, Texas; 14 step-grandchildren: Graham and Kirsten Johnson; Brenda and Savannah Johnson; Jessica (Christie Dancel) Johnson, Angela and Trisha Johnson; Eric, Scott, Greg, Niki and Benjamin Johnson; Sorena Davis and Levi Johnson; brother-in-law, Lew (Cora) Lenz; sisters-in-law; Dorothy Lenz and Lois Petersen; extended family and many friends. Howard was preceded in death by his parents; his first wife, Loraine; and one brother, Thorvald.