



In Loving Memory
Dale P. Spears

Born
November 23, 1918
Fremont County, Iowa

Entered Into Rest
January 8, 2005
Shenandoah, Iowa

Age
86 years, 1 months, 16 days

A Man Who Loves The Soil
I think a man who loves the soil, Who
blends above the fertile earth, And plants
the seed with calloused hands
Must be a gentle man of worth.
A man who cherishes the sod
Must surely be a friend of God!
I think a man who loves the soil;
Who nurtures every growing thing,
And watches with expectancy
For nature's fruitful harvesting,
Who oft has plowed the lands he's trod
Must be a partner of God.
I think a man who loves the soil
Finds happiness in rich supply;
Though toil he must to earn his bread
He reaps much more than wheat and rye,
For with each little grain or pod
He cultivates a faith in God.

Fleanor Lyons Culver

Funeral Services from
Congregational Church
Shenandoah, Iowa
Thursday, January 13, 2005
Two O'clock p.m.

Words of Comfort - Rev. Allan Bash

Organist - Margaret Woods

Special Music
"Take My Hand Precious Lord"
"Just A Closer Walk With Thee"

Congregational Hymn
"Amazing Grace"
Page 107, Verses 1, 2 & 5

Memory Register - Sharon Gates

Caring for Flowers
Marsha Miller Carol Eno

Honorary Casket Bearers
Maurice McNeilly Harold Book
Paul Hillman Richard Jackel
Merton Goodrich Justin Dorn
LeRoy Spargur Donnie Hart
John Fishbaugh Rex Scheib
Dean Nelson (In Memoriam)

Casket Bearers
Dennis Gates Roger McQueen
Tom Spears Mack Teachout
Gary Walter Jan Christiansen

Interment

Obituary

Dale Porter Spears was born November 23, 1918 in Fremont County, Iowa, the son of Porter R. and Harriett (Jarman) Spears. He died January 8, 2005 at his Page County farm home.

Due to the death of his mother in the flu epidemic of 1918, Dale at the age of five days, went to live with his Aunt and Uncle, Margaret and Orrin Wolford and remained with them until adulthood.

He attended Fairview rural school and graduated from Shenandoah High School with the class of 1936. He attended both Tarkio College and Nebraska University briefly, returning home to take over the farming operation at the illness and death of his uncle.

On October 4, 1938 he was united in marriage with Isabel McQueen and they made their home on the farm south of Shenandoah. That remained Dale's residence for his entire 86 years. The couple observed their 66th anniversary this year.

Although his first love was farming, Dale was active in many civic and community affairs. He was a lifelong member of the Congregational UCC Church where he served many capacities, served on the Shenandoah Industries Board, was a member of Sedco, the Chamber of Commerce, Lions Club, and Elks Club where he served as Exalted Ruler from 1954 - 1955. He was very active in the Jaycees serving as both state and national Vice President. He is credited with having been the founder of the Outstanding Young Farmer Program, now an annual national Awards Congress. He received the Honorary Chapter Farmer award for his support of the Future Farmers of America and he was a century member of Boy Scouts.

Dale loved farming with all its challenges. For many years his work car sported the bumper sticker "I'm Proud to be a Farmer". Each spring he impatiently anticipated mounting his tractor and "turning up a furrow". He loved the smell of fresh plowed ground and seeing the plovers follow his plow. Each year, he and his friend Maurice McNeilly collaborated on a big sweet corn patch and from that they freely supplied all comers with bushels of the delectable stuff.

Being an avid supporter of agriculture, in 1969 he received a governmental appointment from the Department of Agriculture and for the ensuing seventeen years he was employed as District Director for Southwest Iowa, a job he enjoyed immensely.

He attained a pilots license and enjoyed flying as a hobby. Barbecuing for family and friends as well as making home made ice cream with the grandchildren were favorite pastimes.

In retirement years, winters were spent in Texas and Florida, summers on the Iowa farm and camping with the Ramblin' Rose R.V. Club. In addition to travels in the U.S., they vacationed in Hawaii, Guatemala, Cancun and traveled extensively in Mexico.

Dale is preceded in death by his parents, his foster parents and a brother. He is survived by his wife; son Sam and wife Brooke of Tampa, FL; son Roger and wife Julianne of Raleigh, NC; grandchildren Tracy and Dillon Spears of Raleigh, NC; sister Estalene Stafford of Goshen, IN; nieces, nephews and a host of other relatives and friends.

After the committal service, please join the family for a time of fellowship.