FRIMAN, Eugene Eldo "Gene"

June 12, 1922
rural Hurley
November 21, 1996
Sioux Falls

Viborg Enterprise
November 28, 1996

Services Held For Gene Friman



Gene Friman

Eugene (Gene) Eldo Friman, 74, of Hurley died November 21, 1996 at Sioux Valley Hospital in Sioux Falls of problems with his heart following surgery.

Gene was born in Turner County on June 12, 1922 to Eldo and Gladys (Benson) Friman. He was the eldest of 15 children. He grew up on family farms in the Hurley area.

During World War II, Gene served in the infantry in North Africa and Italy. He attained the rank of Sergeant and was awarded the Good Conduct Medal. While in the military, he was wounded in action twice and received the Purple Heart with Oak Leaf Cluster.

After being discharged from the service, Gene farmed west of Hurley for several years. On December 2, 1965 he married Phyllis Long Georgeson. After their marriage, Gene and Phyllis lived on an acreage on the south-east edge of Hurley where they owned and operated Turkey Ridge Oil Company. For years Gene delivered bulk gas to area farmers. He was also well known to many area children for the treats which he handed out as he made his deliveries. Gene and Phyllis also built and owned the gas station on the east end of Hurley which is known as Olson Service. In 1987, they sold the bulk gas company but Gene kept busy with many activities which he enjoyed, such as helping Jim and Avis with spray plane flagging, farming, and working with livestock. Over the years Gene raised many animals on his acreage. He enjoyed raising unusual animals such as goats, deer, horses, mules, donkeys, longhorn cattle, bulldogs, miniature horses and buffalo. For the past few years and until the time of his death he still owned and raised Llamas. Gene was a member of the Hurley City Council and the Hurley Volunteer Fire Department for many years. In 1989 he received a citation for distinguished service by the members of the Joppa Lodge. Gene was a member of the Samual W. Keller, Jr. American Legion Post 21. In 1996, Gene was awarded a certificate of continuous membership for being a member in good standing for over 50 years. He was also a long-time member of the South Dakota Oilmen's Association and the National Buffalo Association.

Gene is survived by his wife, Phyllis, daughter, Jo Krager of Sioux Falls; son, Jim Georgeson and his wife, Avis, of Hurley, six grandchildren: Mrs. Harvey (Julie) Dorfschmidt of Spearfish, Mrs. Jim (Joni) Nieland of Redwood Falls, MN, Mrs. Brian (Jean) Tuley of Sioux Falls, Jacque Georgeson of Sidney, Australia, Howard Georgeson and wife, Laurie, of Arlington TX, and Jerome Georgeson of Yankton; ten great-grandchildren: Christopher, Andrew and Katy Dorfschmidt, Joshua, Mandy, and Nicole Nieland, James Lange, Jessica and Deanna Tuley, and Riley Georgeson; one brother, Kenneth, (Jim) and wife, Dorothy, of Tripp, 11 sisters: Mrs. Lester (Dorothy) Hanson of Viborg, Mrs. Robert (Geraldine) Lechner of Madison, Vivian Friman of Hurley, Marian Straw of Mitchell, Mrs. Donald (Edith) Moe of Letcher, Mrs. George (Audrey) Sample of Rogers, Arkansas, Mrs. Victor (Doris) Cordell of Huron, Mrs. John (Margaret) Adel of Lake Andes. Mrs. Robert (Eleanor) Bjerkaas of Irene, Mrs. Kenneth (Genette) Rusk and Mrs. Loren (Carolyn) McMahon, both of Flandreau. brother-in-law Herbert Gossel and wife, Adeline, of Kimball; brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law Ray and Lois Long of Sioux Falls, Ralph and Jeannie Long of Hurley, and Arlie and Myrna Long of Sioux Falls, special friends: Olive and Deanna Baker; and many other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; one sister, Mrs. Herbert (Francis) Gossel, one brother, Richard, in infancy; brothers-in-law: John Adel, Loren McMahon and Robert Lechner.

Gene was a kind and loving person who was loved deeply and will be greatly missed by his family and friends.

Funeral service was Monday, November 25, 1996 at St. Boniface Idylwilde Catholic Church, Rural Freeman with Deacon Bill Frankman officiating.

Pallbearers were Julie Dorfschmidt, Joni Nieland Jean Tuley, Jacque Georgeson, Howard Georgeson, Jerome Georgeson, Mike Bjerkaas, Doug Long, Stephanie Hummel. He was laid to rest at St. Boniface Idylwilde Cemetery with Military Honors.