

November 17, 1915
Spring Valley Township
June 25, 1965
Irene, South Dakota

Viborg Enterprise -
July 1, 1965

KENNETH KNUDSEN RITES HELD MONDAY

Funeral services for Kenneth Knudsen, who died suddenly last Friday morning, were held on Monday afternoon, June 28, at 2:00 P. M., from the Irene High School Auditorium with Rev. Harold Olson and Rev. Gerhard Lingen officiating. Mrs. Olin Hinseth and SusAnn Fjordback were organists. Ray Bak with Helen Holm accompanying sang "The Old Rugged Cross" and "Abide With Me". Interment was in the Irene Hillcrest Cemetery with Robert McArton, Jake Buskhol, Emil Jespersgaard, Don Jorgensen, Myron Chelmo and Ralph Long, employees of the Dakota Cooperative Telephone Co. as pallbearers and the 12 Board of Directors of the Company as honorary pallbearers.

Kenneth Alvern Knudsen, eldest of twin sons, was born November 7, 1915, in Spring Valley Township, on the family farm to Carl and Myrtle Knudsen. He died suddenly Friday morning, June 25, 1965, in his sleep of a heart attack. He reached the age of 49 years, 7 months and 18 days.

He was baptised and confirmed in the Spring Valley Lutheran Church of which he is a member. He attended Rosegrove School, District 40, in Spring Valley Township and took his High School through correspondence and night school. He had received his management certificate after four years of study.

He grew to manhood in the Spring Valley area and was united in marriage to Elva Irene Anderson on November 2, 1936, in the Spring Valley Lutheran Church. To this union were born three children: Helen Marie (Mrs. Darwin Vilhauer) of Sioux City, Carol Barbara (Mrs. Lawrence Donovan) of Willow Lake, and Vernon Kenneth at home. They lived on their farm in Spring Valley until 1952 when they moved to Irene, where they have resided since.

In 1948 he began drawing up maps, and did the ground work for the depleted Flyger Central Area which eventually became the Dakota Cooperative Telephone Company. In 1950, he did all the ground work for the original organizer of the Dakota Cooperative Telephone Company which was the first R. E. A. financed telephone system in South Dakota. In 1951 he then be-

came acting Secretary of the Board of Directors of the company. On April 3, 1952, he became acting Manager and has retained this position until his death. On February 1, 1957, he was appointed by the Administrator of R. E. A. in Washington, D. C., as a member of the National Telephone Advisory Committee. This committee had the responsibility of improving rural telephone service throughout the United States. He was president of the Manager's Association in South Dakota and was instrumental in organizing the statewide Manager's Association and was president of this association. Kenneth was elected the original Vice President of the South Dakota Rural Telephone Association on December 31, 1962.

He has been Master of the Masonic Lodge at Irene and a member of the Oriental Consistory at Yankton, El Riad Shrine Temple and the Yankton and Parker Shrine Club, Member of the Blue Lodge, 32nd Degree Mason. He was also a member of the B. P. O. Elks of Yankton, and the Loyal Order of the Moose of Yankton. He was president of the Irene Commercial Club.

Besides his wife and children, he is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Knudsen of Viborg, a twin brother, Keith, of Lincoln, Nebr., and Fred of Viborg; one sister, Glennys (Mrs. Curtis Thormodsgaard) of Long Prairie, Minn., and four grandchildren besides a host of relatives and friends.

CARD OF THANKS

We express our deep gratitude and appreciation to everyone for your sympathy and acts of kindness in the passing of our loved one.

Mrs. Kenneth Knudsen
and family,

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Knudsen,

Mr. and Mrs. Keith Knudsen
and family,

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Knudsen
and family,

Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Thormodsgaard and family.