

CHRISTENSEN, Harry M.

April 23, 1897
Daneville Township
November 6, 1979
November
Yankton

Viborg Enterprise -
November 15, 1979

FUNERAL SERVICES HELD FRIDAY FOR HARRY CHRISTENSEN

Funeral services for Harry M. Christensen were held on Friday, Nov. 9, 1979, from the First Baptist Church in Viborg. Pastor Paul Kondy officiated. Organist was Mrs. Robert Sanborn, and special music was by Mr. Robert Sanborn. Pallbearers were: Herbert Hansen, Irvie Nelson, Merlin Nelson, Curtis Nelson, Jim Buckstead and J. Maurice Nelson. Interment was in the Baptist Cemetery, Viborg, S. D.

Harry M. Christensen was born on April 23, 1897, in Turner County, South Dakota. He was the youngest of five children born to John K. and Christiana Christensen. He grew up on the family farm 4 miles south and 1/2 east of Viborg. Along with his brother, Bennie, they farmed the home place together as "Christensen Brothers" for many years.

On June 5, 1928, Harry married Ernie R. Hansen at Rapid City, and they lived on the family farm until 1939. Their two children were born here: John K. "Jack", now of New Providence, New Jersey, and Marilyn, Mrs. Elton Bertsch of Yankton.

In 1939 they moved to a farm four miles west of Viborg. Five years later they moved to the farm 3 miles south and 2 miles east of Viborg where they lived until moving to Viborg in the fall of 1970.

Harry and Ernie celebrated their 51st wedding anniversary in June of this year. In August he became a resident of the Pioneer Memorial Nursing Home at Viborg. Then on September 7 Ernie died. On October 18 Harry entered Sacred Heart Hospital at Yankton for care from a specialist, and he passed away there on November 6.

Harry was one of the principals in the founding and building of the Pioneer Memorial Hospital in Viborg. He served on its Board of Directors for more than 16 years as a member and later as its chairman, during the time it was growing to its present size and adding the Nursing Home facilities. Harry also served over the years on the local school and township boards.

Harry is survived by his two children; four grandchildren, Jeff and Jamie Christensen of New Jersey, Sherry Bertsch of Vermillion, and Brian Bertsch of Bowling Green, Ohio. Also surviving is his sister, Frances—Mrs. Reuben Larson of Viborg. No longer living are his brother, Bennie, two sisters, Lula (Mrs. Aaron Hansen of Viborg), Hattie (Mrs. Dan Nelson of Irene), and a foster sister, Amelia (Mrs. Clarence Nash of California).