PETERSON, Ralph "Ras"

September 3, 1913
rural Viborg
May 1, 1912
Viborg

Viborg Enterprise
May 10, 2012

Ralph "Ras" Peterson



Ralph "Ras" Peterson, 98, died May 1, 2012. Ralph "Ras" E. Peterson completed his journey through life on May 1, 2012, passing away unexpectedly at Pioneer Memorial Nursing Home where he had resided for the last 18 months. He had reached the age of 98 years and 8 months. A long and successful journey it had been.

Ras began his journey on September 3, 1913 being born the youngest of 11 siblings to Jens Peter and Trine (Jensen) Peterson on the "homeplace" west of Viborg. He spent his entire life in the Viborg area.

He began early in his journey knowing what a "hard day's work" was which he continued into his adulthood. Along the path of his journey he was a successful farmer, custom corn sheller and at one time owned and operated a card parlor. He worked hard and he played hard! He married Marjorie Nelson on March 27, 1940. They were married nearly 65 years when Marjorie passed away on February 10, 2005. Ras was quick witted, enjoyed a good laugh and especially enjoyed bringing a good laugh to others. During his journey at any given time he would be found fixing whatever needed to be repaired, playing cards, tending his tomato plants, reading the *Argus Leader*, mowing his lawn or drinking coffee with whoever was available. One of the biggest thrills of his life was when he became the Kongen of Danish Days in 2009 for being the oldest 100% Danish man in Viborg at the age of 95. He had never been honored before in any way and he was thrilled to have this distinction!

He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife, his brothers Art, Wendell, Walter, Mervin, Melvin, Jimmie and 2 infant brothers; 2 sisters Mayme Thompson and Effie Christensen; and 2 grandsons James Peterson and Jason Farus.

Ras is survived by a son Dale (Bev) of Viborg; a daughter Joanne (Tom) Farus of Claremore, OK; 4 grandchildren Linda (Scott) Kaufmann, Michelle (Jeremy) McGregor, Ryan (Sarah) Peterson and Katherine Scales; 8 great-grandchildren; and many other relatives and friends.

Services were held on Saturday , May 5, 2012 at Bethany Lutheran Church in Viborg with Pastor Dana Steinwand officiating. Interment: Evergreen Cemetery, Viborg. Arrangements: Fraternal Burial Assoc., Viborg.