

KNUDSEN, John

June 7, 1904  
rural Irene  
July 12, 1988  
Viborg

Viborg Enterprise - July 28, 1988

### **Funeral Held For John Knudsen**

Funeral service for John Knudsen was held Friday, July 15, 1988, at Turkey Valley Baptist Church, Rural Irene, South Dakota, with Rev. Blaine Pritchett officiating. Organist was Maurine Mellem. Ushers were Kenny Mellem and Richard Sorensen, and pallbearers were Kent Benson, Kevin Knudsen, Bob Reutter, Kim Benson, Monty Bohrer, and Robert Bittner. Interment was in Turkey Valley Baptist Cemetery, Rural Irene. Hansen Funeral Home, Inc. of Irene was in charge of arrangements.

John Knudsen, son of Andrew and Christina Knudsen, was born near Irene, SD, on June 7, 1904. He attended rural Turkey Valley School. On November 6, 1928, he was united in marriage to Myrtle Swensen. He farmed in the Irene area most of his life, and was a clerk on the Turkey Valley Township Board for many years. He was an active member of Turkey Valley Baptist Church, serving as treasurer, deacon, trustee, and Sunday School teacher. John enjoyed music and sang in several musical groups in the church and community.

Myrtle Knudsen died October 10, 1976. In 1979, John retired from the farm and moved to Viborg.

On November 27, 1982, he married Esther Christenson Reutter of Huron, and they continued to make their home in Viborg.

John suffered a heart attack on June 26, and entered the Pioneer Memorial Hospital, where he passed away on July 12, 1988, at the age of 84.

John was a loving husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather; and will be missed by his family and friends.

Grateful for having shared his life are his wife, Esther; two sons, Bob of Viborg, and Larry of Longmont, Colorado; one daughter, Cleo (Mrs. Burton Benson) of Hurley; one stepson, Bob Reutter of Sioux Falls; two step-daughters, Ruth (Mrs. Russell Voorhees) of Phoenix, Arizona, and Pam (Mrs. Robert Bittner) of Sioux Falls; six grandchildren; twelve step-grandchildren; fourteen great-grandchildren; one sister, Elsie Porter of Gresham, OR; two brothers, Raymond Knudsen of Portland, OR, and Irving Knudsen of Augusta, GA.