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Mount Ayr Record-News

Mount Ayr, Ringgold County, Iowa

Thursday, October 09, 2003

OBITUARY - CHESTER A. "CHET" GIBSON



Chester A. Gibson

Chester A. GIBSON, son of Johnny L. and Nellie (ROBINSON) GIBSON, was born on November 4, 1915 at the family home in Monroe township northwest of Kellerton, Iowa.

He received his education at the Jackson Hill rural school near their home. He graduated from Kellerton high school in the class of 1934. Chester was a good student and was active in all sports, especially basketball.

Chester was a lifetime member of the United Methodist Church of Kellerton where he took an active part as long as his health permitted.

Chester's mother, Nellie, passed away quite suddenly when he was 13 years of age. His father continued to maintain the home and raised their three sons to manhood.

In 1934 he married his school time sweetheart, Doris Mae DUFFIELD, and they established their home on a farm in Monroe township near his father where they continued their farming operation. To this union two children were born: a son, Johnny Ray, who died at birth, and a daughter, Joyce Ann.

In the spring of 1941, following the death of his father, Chester and Doris purchased the home place where he resided and spent many enjoyable years farming and raising livestock until he was forced to move to the nursing home following a stroke January 29, 1998. He died October 2, 2003.

Chester was a hard-working man and managed his farm very successfully. He took much pride in his farming operation and his livestock as well as his favorite pets. He always had time to lend a helping hand to a neighbor if the need arose.

In his later years, he was blessed with two grandsons, Bryan and Brent, who brought much joy to his life. He played the fatherly role in their high school years and enjoyed having them around the farm with him. They shared many happy times preparing their livestock for showing at the fairs.

Chet was a 60-year member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He was a



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dedicated member, holding many offices in his local lodge and the Grand Lodge as well. He served as trustee of the IOOF home for the elderly in Mason City, Iowa for seven years. He enjoyed visiting with the older people and making sure their home provided everything that was needed. He was also a 55-year member of the Rebekkah Lodge. He was a charter member of the Kellerton Lions Club.

He was also a charter member of the Ringgold County Conservation board on which he served for years. He enjoyed serving in this capacity and seeing the progress taking place in the county, especially the purchasing of the land where the Poe Hollow Park is now developed. He was honored for his service by the county board and presented a plaque for his years of service.

Preceding him in death were his parents; parents-in-law; an infant brother; a brother Leo D. GIBSON and sister-in-law Bernice; an aunt Anna HAVELY and her husband Porter; an and brother-in-law Leland DUFFIELD who was killed in service (Okinawa, World War II).

Left to cherish his memory is his devoted, loving wife, Doris, of 67 years; his daughter Joyce Ann KASTER and grandson Brent of Indianola, Iowa; a grandson Bryan and wife Amy of Harlan, Iowa; four beautiful great-grandchildren: Addie Marie, Kaleb Isak, Greichaly Mae and Ania Rae; a brother Woodie GIBSON and wife Edna of Slater, Iowa; brothers-in-law, Ted DUFFIELD of Nodaway, Iowa, Tom DUFFIELD and wife Joyce of Lucas, Iowa and Dennis DUFFIELD and wife Janice of Cedar Rapids, Iowa; nieces, nephews and many friends.

Chester was a devoted husband, father, grandfather and friend. He set high standards for himself and his family and we will miss his strong influence and continuous love. He is at peace now, free from pain.

Funeral services were held at 2:00 p.m. Sunday, October 5, 2003 at the United Methodist Church in Kellerton with Reverend Rick HAWKINS officiating. Musicians were Sandy CAMPBELL and Richard JACKSON. Casket bearers Gary GIBSON, Rich GIBSON, Mike GIBSON, Curtis DUFFIELD, John QUINNELL and Steven NORRIS.

Chester was laid to rest in the Maple Row Cemetery, Kellerton.

Wilson-Watson & Armstrong Funeral Home in Mount Ayr was in charge of the arrangements.

Transcription by Sharon R. Becker, August of 2012

To submit your Ringgold County obituaries, contact Sharon R. Becker at
srbecker@windstream.net.
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