

Abraham P. Eitzen son of Peter and Katharina Nickel Eitzen was born on October 31, 1879 at Mt. Lake, Minnesota where he spent the first twenty-three years of his life.

In May of 1902 he was baptized, upon the confession of his faith in Jesus Christ as his personal Saviour by elder Heinrich Quiring at Mt. Lake, Minn. In 1903 he came to North Dakota where he did carpentry work until 1907.

On July 13, 1905 he was united in marriage to Katharina Thiessen. They lived in Munich until December of that year when their plans were suddenly changed due to the death of Mrs. C. P. Eitzen, there they assisted him on his work on the farm. In 1907 they moved to the present location of their farm in Sievert Township. Here they were permitted to have joy and sorrow together for fifty-two years, three months and twenty-two days. July 13, 1955 the Lord permitted them to observe their 50th wedding anniversary. This union was blessed with two children.

Throughout the years Father endured many trials thru illnesses. His hearing was impaired due to the aftereffects of a bad case of influenza in 1918. For a number of years Dad's heart was failing and in 1942 he went to Rochester, Minnesota where he received help. After this he enjoyed good health until 1952 when he developed a heart condition. Even with this condition he remained active until March of this year when his condition became serious and he spent a week in the hospital. After a few weeks of improvement, on May 11 early in the morning, he suffered a severe stroke of which he never recovered. On the following day was moved to the Mercy Hospital in Devils Lake. He was semi-conscious at times, and suffered intensely. During these days, when he did speak, his earnest desire and prayer was for his Saviour to take him to His Heavenly home. This prayer was answered on May 18th at 4:30 p.m. He reached the age of 79 years, 6 months and 18 days.

Father was an active member of the Salem Mennonite Church throughout all the years he lived here. In spite of being unable to hear he attended church regularly as long as his health permitted. He got a blessing from being in God's house in the presence of other Christians. He spent much time reading and studying his Bible.

He leaves to mourn his departure: one daughter, Marie, one son Alfred; one daughter-in-law, Erna; and two granddaughters Twyla and Treva. Three brothers, Cornelius of Shafter, Calif; Henry P. of Bakersfield, Calif.; Jacob F. of Mt. Lake, Minn; four sisters, Anna (Mrs. D. D. Schultz); Elizabeth (Mrs. D. H. Fast); Margaret (Mrs. H. D. Esau) all of Mt. Lake, Minn. and Marie of Sioux City, Iowa.

He was preceded in death by his beloved wife only 1-1/2 years ago, six brothers, two sisters, 4 sisters in law and 1 brother in law.

We mourn not as those who have no hope. For he has gone on to be with his Lord. This favorite Bible verse was Isa 40:31 "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles, they shall run, and not be weary; and shall walk, and not faint."

Marie Eitzen
Mr. & Mrs. Alfred Eitzen