

May 22, 2005

Obit: Erwin Hite

- Funeral service for Erwin Hite, 93, of Groton will be 10:00am, Monday, May 23rd at the United Methodist Church, Groton. Rev. Grant Piehl will officiate. Burial will follow in Groton Union Cemetery under the direction of Paetznick-Garness Funeral Chapel, Groton.
- Visitation will be held at the chapel from 4-8pm on Sunday with a prayer service at 7:00pm. Visitation will continue prior to services on Monday.
- Erwin Ray was born on June 30, 1911 to Ernest and Sophie (Larson) Hite near Verdon. He was the oldest of five children. Erwin married Hazel Ives on September 7, 1937 at Webster, SD. The couple farmed near Verdon until 1995 when they moved to Groton. Erwin resided at Beverly Healthcare Center from 1997 until his death on May 18, 2005.



- Erwin was a member of the United Methodist Church in Groton. He was Clerk of Bates Township Board for over 50 years, a lifetime member of the National Rifle Association, and a 30 year member of the South Dakota Muzzle Loaders and Kranzburg Black Powder Clubs.
- Erwin loved to farm and spent 58 years farming his land near Verdon. He was an avid outdoorsman who enjoyed hunting deer, antelope, and pheasant. He collected numerous guns and crafted many himself. He was an accomplished shot, winning many sharp shooter and black powder muzzle loader shooting contests. Erwin especially enjoyed attending the Ft. Sisseton Rendezvous every year at Ft. Sisseton State Park. He loved to fly and made his solo flight on February 1, 1964. Erwin did a great deal of genealogy work on both sides of the family. He also enjoyed playing musical instruments, including the accordion and harmonica. The later of which he played until the last few years at Beverly Healthcare.
- Preceding him in death was his wife, Hazel, his son, Larry, his parents, three brothers and one sister.
- Survivors include his children; Don (Josephine) Hite of Prosper, Texas, Shirley (William) Searuggs of Aurora, Colorado, four grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, four step-grandchildren and seven step-great-grandchildren.
- Casketbearers will be Steve Tewksbury, Richard Smith, Bill Haywood, Kelvin Hite, Kent Hite, Douglas Hite and Randy Tewksbury.

Erwin Ray Hite, 93

Erwin Hite, 93, Groton, died Wednesday, May 18, 2005 at Beverly Healthcare Center, Groton.

His funeral was Monday, May 23, 2005 at the United Methodist Church, Groton, with the Rev. Grant Piehl officiating. Burial followed in Groton Union Cemetery, with Paetznick-Garness Funeral Chapel, Groton, in charge of arrangements. A prayer service was held at the chapel Sunday evening.

Erwin Ray Hite was born June 30, 1911 to Ernest and Sophie (Larson) Hite, near Verdon. He was the oldest of five children.

He married Hazel Ives, September 7, 1937 at Webster, SD. They farmed near Verdon until 1995, when they moved to Groton. Erwin resided at Beverly Healthcare Center from 1997 until his death.

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Preceding him in death was his wife, Hazel; his son, Larry; his parents; three brothers, and one sister.

He is survived by one son, Don (Josephine) Hite, Prosper, Texas; one daughter, Shirley (William) Searuggs, Aurora, Colo.; four grandchildren, three great grandchildren, four step-grandchildren, and seven step-great grandchildren.

Casketbearers were Steve Tewksbury, Richard Smith, Bill Haywood, Kelvin Hite, Kent Hite, Douglas Hite and Randy Tewksbury.

