

2-12-94

Omer A. Nelson, 78

Omer A. Nelson, 78, Groton, died Saturday, Feb. 5, 1994 at Colonial Manor, Groton.

Funeral mass was held at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, Groton, Tuesday, Feb. 8, 1994. Celebrants were the Rev. Albert Cizewski and the Rev. Marvin McPhee. Burial was in the Groton Catholic Cemetery, with Paetznick-Garness Funeral Chapel in charge of arrangements. A scriptural wake service was held at the funeral chapel, Monday, evening, Feb. 7.

Omer Andrew Nelson was born December 29, 1915 in Detroit township, rural Claremont, to Christian and Florence (Stanley) Nelson. He attended school in Groton and graduated from Central High School, Aberdeen, in 1933.

He married Theresa Lowenstein, September 19, 1939 in Aberdeen. They made their home in Aberdeen. He worked for the Civilian Conservation Corp, during World War II. They moved to Groton in 1946, where they owned and operated Omer's Cafe for 27 years. He also sold investments for Waddell and Reed. He was a member of St. John the Baptist Catholic Church and served on the church board.

Mr. Nelson was an active supporter of the Groton community. He served on the city council for six years. He served as mayor of Groton for 16 years, elected first in 1958. While he served as mayor, the WEB Water agreement was signed, the Groton swimming pool was completed, and lights for the baseball field were installed. He coached amateur baseball for many years and was inducted into the South Dakota Amateur Baseball Hall of Fame. He also supported the summer sports in Groton. He acted as announcer for all football and baseball games in Groton for 37 years. He was a charter member of the Groton Kiwanis Club and had perfect attendance for 38 years. He was in charge of the food for the Kiwanis sponsored pancake dinner and athletic banquet for many years. The week before he died, he received a certificate of appreciation from Governor Walter D. Miller for providing volunteer service to his community and state.

He is survived by one son, Omer A. Nelson Jr. and his wife, Mary, Sioux Falls; four daughters, Mrs. Richard (Marlene) Kohn, Plymouth, Minn.; Mrs. Jack (Margaret) Oliver, Groton; Mrs. Darrel (Mary Anne) Peterson, Brooklyn Center, Minn., and Mrs. Michael (Marcella) Hawkins, River Falls, Wis.; five brothers, Raymond Nelson, Oroville, Calif.; Ivan Kent, Corona, Calif.; Gordon Kent, Parker Dam, Calif.; Kenneth Kent, Madras, Ore., and William Kent, Lake Havasu City, Ariz.; five grandchildren and one great grandchild.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife, four brothers and an infant daughter.

Active casketbearers were Wally Fischer, Doug Goldade, Dick Kolker, Eddy Nehls, Ben Schaller and Bob Volk. Honorary casketbearers Charles Berg, Helmer Foss, Leonard Eikamp, Leonard Garness, Randy Hall, Bob Johnson, Bob Snyder, Lyle Stanley, all employees of Omer's Cafe, and all employees of Groton City.

Organist was Matt Hinds and soloist was Rita Cameron. Ushers were George Tremel, Les Hinds and Dick Oliver.



Theresa C. Nelson, 78

Mrs. Omer (Theresa) C. Nelson, 78, died Wednesday, Feb. 2, 1994 at Colonial Manor, Groton.

Funeral mass was held at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, Groton, Saturday, Feb. 5, 1994. Celebrants were the Rev. Albert Cizewski and the Rev. Marvin McPhee. Burial was in the Groton Catholic Cemetery, with Paetznick Garness Funeral Chapel in charge of arrangements. A scriptural wake service was at the funeral chapel, Friday evening, Feb. 4.

Theresa Lowenstein was born November 1, 1915 at Roscoe, S.D., to John and Mariann (Heier) Lowenstein. The family moved to Aberdeen and she attended St. Mary's Elementary School.

She married Omer A. Nelson, September 19, 1939 in Aberdeen. They lived in Aberdeen until 1946, when they moved to Groton. They owned and operated Omer's Cafe for 27 years. They sold the cafe in 1971 and she then worked at the Colonial Manor for four years before retiring. They lived in Groton for 46 years. They have been residents of Colonial Manor since October 1993. She was a member of St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, the Altar Society, and the Royal Neighbors of America.

She is survived by one son, Omer A. Nelson Jr. and his wife, Mary, Sioux Falls; four daughters, Mrs. Richard (Marlene) Kohn, Plymouth, Minn.; Mrs. Jack (Margaret) Oliver, Groton; Mrs. Darrel (Mary Anne) Peterson, Brooklyn Center, Minn., and Mrs. Michael (Marcella) Hawkins, River Falls, Wis.; three sisters, Mrs. Margaret Schwan, Aberdeen; Mrs. Anna

Paepke, Tacoma, Wash., and Mrs. Marie Kelly, Windom, Minn.; five grandchildren and one great grandchild.

She was preceded in death by her parents, one daughter, two brothers and two sisters.

Casketbearers were Ed and Lynne Enquist, Randy and Sue Kirsch, Todd Oliver and Sharon Barta, Chad Oliver and Stacy Anderson, and Corey Hawkins.

Soloist was Rita Cameron and organist was Matt Hinds. Ushers were Eddy Nehls, Bob Volk and Doug Goldade.

WE'RE FREE

Don't grieve for us, for now we're free
We're following that path God laid for us.
We took His hand when we heard Him call
We turned our back and left it all.
We could not stay another day
To laugh, to love, to work or play.
Tasks left undone must stay that way.
We found that peace at close of day.
If our parting has left a void,
Then fill it with remembered joy.
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,
Ah yes, these things we too will miss.
Be not burdened with times of sorrow
We wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.
Our life's been full, we've savored much.
Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.
Perhaps our time seemed all too brief
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.
Lift up your hearts and share with us
God wanted us now; He set us free.

