



## William Russell Johns

May 17, 1912 - November 15, 2007

William Russell Johns was born on the family farm near Blair, Nebraska, the 6th of 10 children, to Arthur and Hattie (Bradley) Johns. Russell grew up on the farm, attended grade school and graduated from Blair High School in 1930. Most of his spare time was spent helping the family with the daily chores on the farm, He also had a milk route in the Blair area.

Russell married Doris White on May 26, 1935 at the Church of God in Blair, Nebraska and to this union three children were born: Janet, Ronald and Dean. Russell and Doris raised their family in many Nebraska towns before settling in Bennington in 1944.

Russell worked as a milkman for several companies in the Omaha area and for a seed corn company in Aurora, Nebraska before moving to Bennington to work in his brother-in-law's Feed Store, Nelson Produce. In 1959, he purchased the feed store and ran it until his retirement. Russell enjoyed church, football, All-Star Wrestling and Lawrence Welk. He was active in his community serving on the fire department, Lions Club, Omaha Airport Authority and 17 years as the Mayor of Bennington. Russell's years of dedication were acknowledged by having a local park named in his honor. But Russell's passion was his faith, he was active in his church, Gideon International and was proud to share his love of Lord with everyone. He loved the time he could spend with his family, especially his grandchildren and great

grandchildren as they would play  
“Sorry” and “Scrabble”.

Russell passed away on Thursday, November 15, 2007 at the Arbor Manor in Fremont, Nebraska at the age of 95 years, 5 months and 29 days. He was preceded in death by his parents Arthur and Hattie, wife Doris, 4 brothers and 4 sisters. Russell is survived by his sons and daughters-in-law Ronald and Nancy of Sun City, Arizona and Dean and Kay of Bennington, Nebraska; daughter Janet Johns of San Francisco, California; 9 grandchildren, 12 great grandchildren and 2 great great grandchildren; sister Mary Barnes of Greenbriar, Arkansas.

# Tribute Wall



“ *William Russell Johns*

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