**Funeral Service**

Zion Church of God in Christ, Mennonite

Inman, Kansas

Friday, May 13, 2011, at 10:30 AM

**Officiating Ministers**

Maynard Koehn

Gregg Johnson

Ron Ensz

**Special music**

Zion Church Choir

**Casketbearers**

Dyke Nikkel Dustin Nikkel Chris Nikkel Page Nikkel

Bryson Wadel Devin Wadel Austin Nikkel Anthony Nikkel

**USHERS**

Allen Isaac Duane Martens

Dennis Ensz Matthew Unruh

**Interment**

Zion Church Cemetery

Inman, Kansas

**Memorial Donations**

The family suggests that memorial donations be given to Moundridge Manor in loving memory of Delton.

**Appreciation**

On behalf of the family, we wish to express their sincere appreciation for all your kindnesses, evidenced in thought and deed, and for your presence at this service.

*Stockham Family Funeral Home*

**Delton E. nikkel**

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y beloved husband, our father and grandfather, Delton E. Nikkel, was born to Anton and Justine (Ensz) Nikkel on December 6, 1937, near Inman, Kansas. He peacefully passed away on May 10, 2011, at Mercy Hospital, Moundridge, Kansas. He reached the age of 73 years.

 His childhood and growing up years were on the family farm near Inman, where he developed his skills as a mechanic and his love for farming. He received his education in the Inman schools.

 At the age of 16, he answered God’s call to salvation and upon confession of his faith, was baptized into the Church of God in Christ, Mennonite, on January 25, 1953, by Min. John A Ensz. He endeavored to embrace this faith in his life.

 As a young man, he was called to serve in the Alternative Service Program. He spent two years in the Roseburg, Oregon 1-W unit. Here many lasting friendships were formed.

 On February 2, 1961, he was united in marriage to Deloris Unruh at Hesston, Kansas. They established their home in the Marquette, Kansas community. Many happy times we shared as they raised their family of three sons and two daughters. In 2001, after 40 years on the farm, they moved to their retirement home at Inman. As a family we are grateful for the special time we had together in February, as we celebrated our parents’ 50th Wedding Anniversary.

 Dad was a person who enjoyed life, which helped him to have a positive outlook and gave him fortitude when faced with adversity. He enjoyed people and had his way of connecting with them to put everyone at ease. He enjoyed the challenges of tilling the soil and the awaiting harvest. And especially, he loved God’s great creation. He found relaxation in his cherished hobby of going fishing. He always seemed to know where to go to catch one. During the last family outing we were able to have together, he caught the biggest fish of all his efforts. He needed help to bring it in.

 Delton experienced some difficulties in life but he was ever grateful for God’s redeeming grace and mercy shown to him. He loved the Church and attending worship services was always important to him. He was always ready to lend a helping hand. He served the congregation for many years as an usher and also as song leader.

 About eight years ago his health began to fail, though medical aid was sought, his condition declined. After a special prayer for healing in 2004, Dad’s testimony was he had never felt so clean. We are thankful for these extended years that were given to him. *(continued)*

 He has left us a good example of patience in suffering. He was especially thankful for the reassurance God granted to him one morning last December when he heard his name called by a heavenly voice.

**In Loving Memory**

**Delton E. Nikkel**

 Those left to cherish fond memories are his loving wife, Deloris; three sons, Donovan (Donna) of Dalhart, TX, Doyle (Cynthia) of Mountain Grove, MO, and Dallas (Sirena) of Marquette, KS; two daughters, Darla Wadel (Marlin) of Inman, KS, and Debbie Jost (Jonathan) of Bradley, AR; 20 grandchildren; one brother, Ray (Jane) of Pincher Creek, Alberta, Canada; sister, Norma Reimer (Ken) of Linden, Alberta, Canada; sister-in-law, Ida Nikkel, of Dalhart, TX; brother-in-law, Melvin Wohlgemuth of Delisle, Saskatchewan, Canada; and many other relatives and friends.

 He was preceded in death by an infant grandson, Derrick Nikkel, his parents, brother, Floyd, and sister, Lois Wohlgemuth.

**God looked around His garden**

**And he found an empty place**

**And then He looked down upon the earth,**

**And saw your tired face.**

**He put His arms around you,**

**And lifted you to rest,**

**God’s garden must be beautiful**

**He always takes the best.**

**He knew that you were suffering,**

**He knew that you were in pain,**

**He knew that you would never**

**Get well on earth again…**

**He saw the road was getting rough**

**And the hills were hard to climb,**

**And so He closed your weary eyelids,**

**And whispered, “Peace be thine”**

**It broke our hearts to lose you,**

**But you didn’t go alone,**

**For part of us went with you,**

**The day God called you home.**

 ***Anonymous***

**Dec. 6, 1937 ~ May 10, 2011**