



## Floyd L. "Herb" Mason

April 25, 2013 - September 5, 2013

Floyd "Herb" Mason was born April 25, 1913 to Ira and Blanch (Kelly) Mason. Floyd became "Herbie" when he was a little boy, named after the comic strip "Little Herbie" At the age of 4 years old, his parents and siblings move to the Mason farm just east of Geneva, NE. When he became of age he attended District 3 country school, riding their horse Mac back and forth to school.

At the age of 10, he drove horse and buggy, carrying glass crocks, full of water, rapped in burlap, out to the thrashing and pitching crew. At the age of 12, tragedy struck the family, his father passed away from an apparent heart attack. The family was forced to leave the farm and move back to Geneva. He was the man of the house now, and went to work doing anything he could to help support the family.

At the age of 16, he and his sister and her husband took out for California looking for work. They tried the Olive harvest but that didn't pay to good. While looking for other work he met a fellow by the name of Sully Salvador who was a 10 time middleweight champion in California. Sully put Herb to work making home brew. They used an abandoned dairy barn as a cover for the operation. Herb worked for Sully for about a year and decided to come back to Nebraska. After returning home from Calif., He went to work for the Chaney Bros., working on farm machinery and helping out on the farm.

At the age of 18 years, he went to work for Economy Paint Mills in Geneva hauling gasoline. At the age of 20 years he went to CC Camp in Hebron Nebraska. After CC Camp, while still in Hebron, he got a job working for Coryell 70 driving a fuel transport. At the age of 29 years he was working for Hargo Road out of Omaha. Sitting in a little cafe in Kansas, it came over the radio, the news of Pearl Harbor. Hargo Road called all trucks into the yard and went to hauling Aviation Fuel to the airbases. He left the company shortly after, and went to work at the Mead Ordinance Plant, hauling bombs out of the factory. At the request of the American Truckers Association he enlisted in the Army. They were putting together a truck battalion to go over to Iran. His mission was to haul supplies to the Russian troops who were fighting Germany. After 28 months in Iran, Herb was sent back to the states to Fort Warren in Wyoming, where he was a truck driving instructor for the remainder of his 3 yrs.

Herb was united in marriage to Annabelle (Fox) Mason on September 21, 1946. They

Moved to Exeter where he went to work for Foreman Fuel as a mechanic, and drove fuel transport.

On March 29, 1948, the first of 3 children were born, Trudy Kay Mason. On Dec. 21, 1950, the second of three children was born, Dale Leon Mason, and on May 7, 1958 a third child was born, Donald Jay Mason. After several years of working for Foreman's, he decided to change jobs and went to work for D.L. (Johnny) Adamson as mechanic and truck driver. In 1963, Homer Bender came over and offered Herb the job as mechanic at their new chevrolet dealership in Friend, Nebraska, B&B Chevrolet. Herb took the job and was with them for 3 and a half years.

In 1966 Herb and Annabelle went into business for themselves and opened Mason's Hiway Service and Cafe in Exeter. In 1975 Herb retired from the service station and his son Dale took it over. Herb said that after retiring, is when he went to work! Herb started driving truck for Merlin Hulse hauling grain to Crete & Lincoln, Nebraska. He did this for a while and then he was approached by Albert Simacek about farming. Albert asked him if he had ever cultivated corn and Herb said yes, with a team of horses. He went to work for Albert for several years later working for Dean Due, Dick Manning and Paul Kuska. After he retired from farming, he spent his time in his shop building, fixing and but mostly just cleaning up the messes Donnie Made.

On November, 6th 2010, Herb lost the love of his life when his wife Annabelle passed away at Bryan Hospital in Lincoln. The past few years his age and health had kept him confined in his house.

Herb was a wonderful husband and father. He loved his wife, his children, and grand children. He loved getting involved in his children's projects and adventures. He started the first gun club in Exeter, and he and his son Donnie started raising rabbits. It started out to be a small operation, but when he got involved, it turned out to bigger than planned. That was the way he did things. Herb was a lifetime charter member of the Geneva VFW Post 7102, and a member of the American Legion in Exeter. Herb will be deeply missed by family and friends but are blessed to have had and known him for his long life.

Herb was preceded in death by his parents, wife Annabelle, son Dale, sisters Fern and Emma, nephew Charles Eaton and niece Donna Elsasser.

He is survived by his son Donald Mason of Exeter, daughter Trudy and husband Don Dunkin of Geneva, brother Dale Saum of Salina, KS, nephew Bernard Most of Omaha, NE, 5 grandchildren, Steve Dunkin, Shannon (Dunkin) Votipka, Brad Dunkin, Travis Mason and Tanya (Mason) Ackerman, 12 great grandchildren and 2 great great grandchildren.

Services for Floyd L. "Herb" Mason will be Monday, at 10:00 a.m. at the United Church of Christ in Exeter, Nebraska.

Graveside services will be held at 2:00 p.m. Monday at the Geneva Public Cemetery with Military Honors.

Pubic Visitation will begin Sunday at 1:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at the Farmer Funeral Home in Exeter, Nebraska. Memorials are directed to the family for later designation.

# Tribute Wall

SM

“ Your Dad was a wonderful and good kind hearted person. I will always remember him. When he worked for mom and dad one day before school he brought me a stray orange cat that was hanging out at the station and gave it to me i loved that cat and named him oscar. Heis gone now but i will always remember that day. He made one little girl so happy. sorry I couldn't make it to the furnal.

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**Sherrie Matthies** - September 09, 2013 at 11:02 AM

LG

“ So sorry to hear about your dad's passing. I know you will miss him. Just Know we are thinking of you and your family.

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**Lee Gorcos** - September 07, 2013 at 09:51 AM

P(

“ Trudy and family  
Please accept my sincere sympathy in the loss of your Dad. I remeber him as always being happy. Hold on to your memories as those will get you through the rough days.  
God Bless Pam (Clark) Schroeder

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**Pam Schroeder (Clark)** - September 06, 2013 at 08:34 PM

NW

“ My sincerest condolences. Herb touched many a heart in his day. He has such a wonderful place to go in Heaven!

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**Nancy Wood** - September 06, 2013 at 10:40 AM