



Clarence W. Backlin, 99, passed away March 13, 2007. He was born August 27, 1907 to John and Lena (Knutson) Backlin in Warren, Minnesota where he grew up and finished high school. He then went to Fargo, ND to attend Business School. Upon completion of school, he went to work for a hardware company as a bookkeeper. A few years later he attained a position as an auditor for Deere and Webber Co. (John Deere).

On August 26, 1932, he married Helen Dyrland, the love of his life, in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The couple's union lasted 72 years. In 1939, they moved to Bozeman with their two sons, Lyle and Curtis, to manage the local John Deere machinery business. They later purchased the business.

Clarence was an active member of the Hope Lutheran Church where he was a trustee and was very active in the building of the present day church. He enjoyed fishing, golfing, playing cards, and farming was something he especially enjoyed doing. In later years, Helen and Clarence enjoyed traveling and spending their winters in the south. He was very active and always had a project or two in the works.

He was preceded in death by his son, Lyle; wife, Helen; all of his brothers and sisters and his parents.

Clarence is survived by his son, Curtis (Roberta) Backlin; daughter-in-law, Helen; seven grandchildren and thirteen great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held at 1:30 Saturday, March 17, 2007 at Hope Lutheran Church. Interment will follow in Sunset Hills Cemetery. Memorials may be directed to a charity of choice. Arrangements are in the care of Dokken-Nelson Funeral Service.