

Merlin Wyatt Handsaker, 92, of Colo died Wednesday, March 25, 2015, at his home in Colo. Merlin was born April 23, 1922, the son of John William "Bill" and Clara (Burkhart) Handsaker. Merlin graduated from Colo High School in 1940 and was united in marriage to his loving wife Margaret Herink on April 15, 1946, in a double-wedding ceremony at the Methodist church in Toledo, Iowa. They resided and farmed outside of Colo until 1985 and then built a home in Colo where they have since resided for more than 20 years. Merlin was very industrious and held many jobs while farming. There was no job he wouldn't attempt, and doing carpentry, plumbing and roofing are just to name a few. Merlin enjoyed fishing, hunting and camping and he and his wife, Margaret enjoyed traveling in their RV and spending their winters in Pharr, TX. for the past several years. His love of friends and family, musical jamborees and dominoes had been favorite past times during retirement. Merlin was a life-long member of the Colo United Methodist Church.

He is survived by his wife, Margaret, of Colo; daughter Delores (Allen) Miller of Muscatine, IA; son, Larry (June) Handsaker of Nevada, IA; four grandchildren: Kevin (Beth) Miller of Polk City, IA, Bryan (Melissa) Miller of Muscatine, IA., Kris (Tod) Keeth of Perryton, TX. and Jason (Liz) Handsaker of Providence Village, TX; seven great grandchildren: Avery Miller, Kristyn Miller, Mason Miller, Zachary Miller, Abigail Miller, Ashton Handsaker and Alison Handsaker; and one brother, Vernon (Hyliss) Handsaker; along with several nieces and nephews.

Merlin was preceded in death by his parents; three brothers: Clifford (Darlene), John (Lois) and Wayne Handsaker.

Visitation will be 5-7 p.m. Friday, March 27, at the Colo United Methodist Church in Colo. Funeral services will be 10:30 a.m. Saturday, March 28, also at the church with burial to follow in the Colo Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the family in memory of Merlin, to be determined at a later date.

Bacon Funeral Home in Nevada is handling arrangements.