

Dewey Edward Lee, 97, of Burwell, Nebraska died October 25, 2015 at the Community Memorial Health Center in Burwell.

Funeral services will be 10:30 a.m. Thursday, October 29, 2015 at St. John's Lutheran Church in Burwell. Burial will be in Cottonwood Cemetery in Burwell. Pastor Shawn Kitzing will officiate. Visitation will be Wednesday from 5 – 7 p.m. at Hitchcock Funeral Home in Burwell. Memorials are suggested to the church or the Friends of the Garfield County Library.

Dewey was born August 8, 1918 in Mason City, Nebraska to Edward and Laura (Dewey) Lee.

Dewey was a Veteran of World War II and was inducted on March 6, 1942 at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. He took basic training at Fort Bliss, Texas. He spent thirty six months in the United States and ten months in the Pacific in Okinawa. He was honorably discharged on January 25, 1946. He then went to work with his grandma Dewey on the ranch they later purchased. He went to Grand Island with Lloyd Eggelsten to the Glovers to a dance where he met Erma Stites. They were married on October 19, 1947 in Grand Island. They ranched north of Burwell. Two sons, Howard and Edward were born to this union. After retirement they moved into Burwell.

Dewey was a member of St. John's Lutheran Church, the American Legion and the Nebraska Cattlemen's Association. He loved cows and was a very successful rancher. Dewey enjoyed reading and visiting. He never knew a stranger.

Dewey is survived by his wife Erma Lee, two sons, Ed and Joye Lee and Howard Lee all of Burwell, Nebraska; four grandchildren – Josh and Valerie Lee Leising, Arapahoe, NE; Edward (Ted) Lee of Burwell, NE; Catherine Lee and her fiancé, Travis O'Neel, Ord, NE; Samuel Lee, Clovis, NM; and two greatgrandchildren, Alaina and Adam Leising, Arapahoe, NE. A sister, Helen Leck of Wichita, Kansas and a brother-in-law, Aldon Nielsen of Greensprings, Virginia.

Dewey was preceded in death by his parent and two sisters, Leila Wolfe and Vivian Neilsen and two brothers-in-law, Ivan Leck and Jim Wolfe.