



Herbert Roy Niemeyer was born March 16, 1914, on a farm near Barnett, Illinois, where he lived until he married Mildred Mae Akin on February 20, 1937. With his life partner and helpmate, the Niemeyers began farming 200 acres near Buckhart, Illinois. In 1963 they built their home in Auburn, Illinois and still resides there.

Their son Garry Lewis was born to them on June 8, 1848.

Herb labored on a farm for \$1.00 per day and a noon meal, from sun up to sun down. He became a modern farmer in 1934 by buying a steel wheel IHC Farmall that would pull a 7 foot disc and two bottom plow. Herb helped to "lift the mortgage" by feeding out cattle, hogs and milking 12 head of dairy cows. In 1943 Herb was able to purchase a real "uptown" tractor. It was an IHC "H" Farmall with rubber tires, a starter, and lights. During 1940, Rural Electric came through with

power lines and Herb held a board position for 17 years. However, Herb was not all work and no play. One year he and a friend pooled their money together and rode a train to Chicago to attend the World's Fair for three days. And as a gift for Mildred, before they were married, he purchased an Overland Whippet for \$50.00. It had "finger tip control" with one switch to start, push to blow horn and turn to light up. Herb Niemeyer has contributed endless hours to community involvement as a member of the Farm Bureau for 55 years, Lions Club for 12 years, Auburn Township Board for 8 years, Past President of the Auburn Methodist Church Class, Secretary & Treasure of the Parent Teachers Association, and lastly 4-H Associate for many years. To this day Herb is still able to rise by 5:00 a.m. with his son Garry and farm their 1500 acres, ending his work day at 9:00 p.m. Although with a busy schedule, Herb always finds time to help his neighbors in their farm endeavors also.

**1995 Recipient
Herbert Roy Niemeyer
Auburn, Illinois**