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# MANFRED HISTORY AND PRESERVATION

P.O. Box 321 Harvey, North Dakota 58341

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## Greetings from Manfred!

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### Knute and Randi Nelson



27<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 1938

Husband's Full Name: Knute Nelson  
Husband's Place of Birth: Sigdahl, Norway  
Husband's Father's Name:  
Husband's Mother's Name:  
Husband's Siblings' Names: Bertha Hunstad  
Wife's Full Name: Randi Ulberg Nelson  
Wife's Place of Birth: Sigdahl, Norway  
Wife's Father's Name: Aslaug Ulberg  
Wife's Mother's Name: Ingebjorg Ulberg  
Wife's Siblings' Names: Gilbert  
Children's Names: Anna, Ida, Eilert

### Knute and Randi Nelson

K.E. Nelson homesteaded the home quarter, the NE 1/4 of Sect 9-149-71, August 2, 1893. His first home was a sod shanty while he batched on the place, and a few years later he built a one-room shanty. In later years he rebuilt the house, adding rooms and additions twice, to bring it to the modern size structure seen above on the picture. He added land as the occasion and need arose until he built the farm up to its present size. His other holdings were in West Norway township, which land he sold in 1946.

The barn was built in 1915 and other buildings added including the granaries, machine shed, blacksmith shop, chicken house and garage. Last additions to the house were made in 1926.

K. E. Nelson was born in Norway, March 20, 1871 and came to America in 1891, settling first at Yankton, S.D. Where he took up farm work. He went to Northwood in May 1892, and came to the Manfred community in August of 1893 where he took up this homestead. He was also a carpenter, and during the early years, he rented his land and worked on construction projects in the central part of the state.

He made two trips to Norway, one in 1901 and 1902; and the second from 1909 to 1911. When he returned from the second trip he married Randi Guleberg, of Norway at Boston, Massachusetts in July 1911. They returned to the farm at Manfred, which was their home ever since. Mr. Nelson died in July 1947 and his widow still resides on the farm with her son.

They were the parents of three children: Anna, who died in infancy; Eilert, on the home farm; and Ida, who died in 1938. Eilert has been associated with his father in the farming enterprise ever since he was big enough to help out, and he took over full operations after his father's death in 1947. Eilert now owns the place jointly with his mother.

27<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. K. E. Nelson were pleasantly surprised Sunday, July 17 when about a hundred relatives and friends came to their home, the occasion being their 27th wedding anniversary. Rev. Langseth was toastmaster and John Layne was called upon to give a talk, which was very interesting. On behalf of those present, Rev. Langseth presented the honored couple with a purse of silver in remembrance of the day. The afternoon was spent in a sociable way and pictures were taken. Lunch was served in the dining room, which looked very beautiful with nice bouquets of flowers. Two real Norwegian treats, smor gors and bor stabler were served, which tasted very good to us all. Mrs. Olaf Hunstad baked them; she was Mr. Nelson's sister.

Knute's Obituary - Wells County Free Press - Aug 7, 1947

Knute E. Nelson, 76, well-known farmer of the Manfred community was laid to rest in the Manfred Vang cemetery last Saturday, August 2nd. He passed away Tuesday, July 29th at his farm home after an illness of 5 1/2 months, at the age of 76 years, 4 months and 9 days.

Randi's Obituary:

Born in Norway, she attended school there and was baptized and confirmed in the Lutheran faith. In July 1911 she came to America and was married that same month to Knute E. Nelson in Boston, Mass. They made their home near Manfred on a farm he had homesteaded in 1893. Three children were born to them.

Preceding her in death were two daughters, Anna, an infant of 6 days and Ida who died in 1938. She leaves her son Eilert and daughter-in-law Tillie of Manfred to mourn her loss as well as several nephews and cousins in America and a host of relatives in Norway. She was a member of Vang Lutheran Church and a member of the Vang Ladies Aid.

Most of her life was lived in the Manfred area, with the exception of 10 years at Velva and 7 years in Harvey. She passed away at St. Aloisius Hospital, March 27 after a brief illness.

