

Lifelong Sherman County and Wallace County famer Jesse Lee Craft, 87, passed away on Friday, April 13, 2018 at his home in Goodland, Kansas.

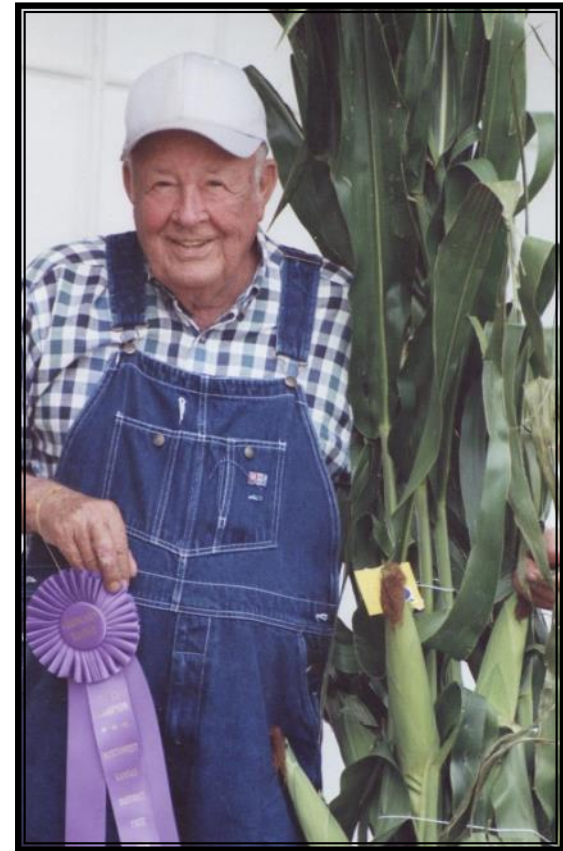
He was born on January 5, 1931 in rural Sherman County, to Everett and Elva (Dillinger) Craft. He married Doris Sieck on August 8, 1948 in Goodland. They started farming just two miles from where they both grew up. They were blessed with three daughters, Shirley, Karen and Marsha.

Jesse loved farming, but as he always said, “we had our ups and downs”. He served his community and was involved and served on many different state and local boards. He especially liked anything that involved young ones, 4-H, sports, etc.

Preceding him in death were his parents, his brother Darrell Craft and his wife Connie, and an infant great grandchild Hadley Grace Schilling.

He is survived by his wife of 69 years Doris, of the home in Goodland, his three daughters Shirley (Ron) Busse of Edson, Kansas, Karen (Les) Lampe of Shawnee, Kansas and Marsha (Ron) Schilling of Edson, KS; eight grandchildren, Justin (Amity) Ihrig, John (Tisha) Ihrig, Jessica (Tom) Nittler, Anne (Nate) Rahmeier, Paul Lampe, Cash (Amanda) Schilling, Chance (Emily) Schilling and Clay (Kaycie) Schilling, seventeen great grandchildren, and many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

## In Loving Memory of



### Jesse Lee Craft

January 5, 1931 ~ April 13, 2018

## So God Made a Farmer

By Paul Harvey

And on the 8th day, God looked down on his planned paradise  
and said, "I need a caretaker."  
So God made a farmer.

God said, "I need somebody willing to get up before dawn, milk cows,  
work all day in the fields, milk cows again, eat supper and then go to town  
and stay past midnight at a meeting of the school board."  
So God made a farmer.

"I need somebody with arms strong enough to rustle a calf and yet gentle  
enough to deliver his own grandchild. Somebody to call hogs, tame can-  
tankerous machinery, come home hungry, have to wait lunch until his  
wife's done feeding visiting ladies and tell the ladies to be sure and come  
back real soon—and mean it."  
So God made a farmer.

God said, "I need somebody willing to sit up all night with a newborn colt.  
And watch it die. Then dry his eyes and say, 'Maybe next year.' I need  
somebody who can shape an ax handle from a persimmon sprout, shoe a  
horse with a hunk of car tire, who can make a harness out of haywire, feed  
sacks and shoe scraps. And who, planting time and harvest season, will  
finish his forty-hour week by Tuesday noon, then, pain'n from a 'tractor  
back,' put in another seventy-two hours."  
So God made a farmer.

God had to have somebody willing to ride the ruts at double speed to get  
the hay in ahead of the rain clouds and yet stop in mid-field and race to  
help when he sees the first smoke from a neighbor's place.  
So God made a farmer.

God said, "I need somebody strong enough to clear trees and heave bails,  
yet gentle enough to tame lambs and wean pigs and tend the pink-combed  
pullets, who will stop his mower for an hour to splint the broken leg of a  
meadow lark. It had to be somebody who'd plow deep and straight and  
not cut corners. Somebody to seed, weed, feed, breed and rake and disc  
and plow and plant and tie the fleece and strain the milk and replenish the  
self feeder and finish a hard week's work with a five-mile drive to church."

"Somebody who'd bale a family together with the soft strong bonds of  
sharing, who would laugh and then sigh, and then reply, with smiling eyes,  
when his son says he wants to spend his life 'doing what dad does.'"  
So God made a farmer.

## Join Us in Celebrating the Life of Jesse L. Craft

Husband of Doris  
Father of Shirley, Karen and Marsha

### Entered this life

January 5, 1931      Edson, Kansas

### Departed this life

April 13, 2018      Goodland, Kansas

### Memorial Services

Thursday, April 19, 2018 2:00 PM MT  
United Methodist Church, Goodland, Kansas  
Pastors Zach Anderson & Brent Flanders, officiating  
Lloyd Holbrook, Carol Guyer & Scott McGillivray, musicians

### Honorary Pallbearers

|                  |                |
|------------------|----------------|
| Justin Ihrig     | John Ihrig     |
| Jessica Nittler  | Anne Rahmeier  |
| Paul Lampe       | Cash Schilling |
| Chance Schilling | Clay Schilling |

### Inurnment

Will be held at a later date in the  
Goodland Cemetery, Goodland, Kansas.

### Memorial Contributions

In Lieu of Flowers, memorials may be designated to  
the NWKS Shrine Club or to the United Methodist Church  
in Goodland and may be left at the services or mailed to  
Koons-Russell Funeral Home, 211 N. Main Ave.,  
Goodland, KS 67735.

*Arrangements are entrusted to Koons-Russell Funeral Home in Goodland, Kansas.  
www.koonsrussellfuneralhome.com*