

MARSHALL

Ray Marshall was born August 18, 1899, while the family was living near Phillipsburg, Phillips County, Kansas. When he was a young boy, the family moved in a covered wagon to the Sand Hills of Nebraska where his father had a homestead at Halsey. His father, Sheldon (Shelly), farmed and raised horses there. After the farm was sold they returned to Phillipsburg where Ray attended school.

As a young man, Ray was employed as a farm laborer and worked for his future father-in-law, and became known for his speed in corn shucking.

Edna Agnes Pennington was born January 23, 1902, in Greenwood Township, Kansas. She was raised there, attending a rural school, then high school in Phillipsburg. After graduating from high school in 1920, she taught one term at a rural school where all grades were taught in one room, then married Ray in 1921.

They lived in Phillipsburg six years while Ray worked for the Rock Island Railroad. He began as a coal chute operator and advanced to machinist's helper and was an engine inspector by the time he resigned. Edna continued teaching those years.

On August 10, 1927, Ray resigned from the Rock Island Railroad, went to Colorado and found work at the Great Western Sugar Company near Johnstown. With the help of Tom Showers, he began construction of a home in Milliken in September 1927. The house was on the lot east of the Mentz property, which was east of the library - 1204 Broad Street.

The week of October 13, 1927, Edna and two daughters, Helen and Donna, came to Milliken by train. She later remarked of what a chore it was to prepare a household for moving with one child almost four years old and one child nine months old. Arriving at the train depot in Milliken she asked for a taxi and was told that there wasn't one. Living in Milliken was much different than in Phillipsburg, Kansas.

Ray continued working at the Great Western Sugar Company until retiring as sugar boiler at age sixty-five. During the early years, when the Great Western would close down in the summers for repair work, he worked for area farmers. Eventually he was employed at the company all year.

Ray enjoyed creating and repairing items and had a talent for gardening. During his later years, he collected maple seeds from a neighbor's tree, raised seedlings and gave them away. Several trees in Milliken are from his seedlings.

During the years in Milliken, Edna served three terms as Secretary of the School Board and also was Treasurer of the Town of Milliken. This was in addition to raising two daughters, being involved in school activities, etc. Her hobbies were sewing for the family and crocheting.

The children of Ray and Edna Marshall are Helen Marshall Stroh and Donna Marshall Shable. Grandchildren are Janice Stroh Mauch, Alan Stroh, Raenette Shable Hamman and Duane Shable.

Edna died August 5, 1980; Ray died December 2, 1987. Both are buried at Linn Grove Cemetery in Greeley, Colorado.