

# AGRICULTURE A 6 GENERATION FAMILY LEGACY

A question remains on many minds: Will future generations carry on the traditions and lifestyle set before them in the agriculture industry?

One family legacy, set in the heart of the Nebraska Panhandle in Kimball and Banner counties, has carried on for six generations and remains strong.

Some family members even were recognized this past year with a prestigious honor for operating an outstanding farm.

This is the story of the Snyder family.

## THE EARLY YEARS

Mervin Rudolph Snyder was born May 27, 1875, in Scott County, Iowa, to Melchoir and Adelaide Labarr Snyder. Mervin and his parents made the trip to Banner County and filed on a homestead in 1886 but decided to make their next move to Tennessee.

On March, 25 1897, Mervin married Mary Koenig, and had nine children: Alvin M, Pinkie A (Brown), James J., Glen M., Arthur C., Bessie L. (Larsen), Ruby M. (Hansen), Herbert G., and Al-

## Dakota Kuhns

Western Nebraska Observer



COURTESY PHOTO / WESTERN NEBRASKA OBSERVER  
Glendel and Joan Snyder received the 1985 Farmer's Day Outstanding Farmers Award.

ice Margaret Susie (Eckland).

When the dust settled after a few cross country moves, Mervin decided to make Banner County his home. Shortly after that, he bought his home farm in April 1905. With a Snyder there was no stopping there, Mervin added to his land until he owned 1,120 acres.

Glen (Shorty), son of Mervin, was born May 24, 1904. Shorty helped farm with his father and also helped relay the Kirk mail route to Harrisburg by team and sled during the winter storms.

Shorty met Roberta Louise Sweatt in 1926, and they married Sept. 28, 1930. The couple had four children: Glendel Mervin, born Aug. 1, 1935; Val Dean, born July 1, 1938; Lininden Carroll, born Sept. 24, 1941; and Marva Rea, born July 25, 1947.

Shorty and Roberta bought 240 acres and built their first home. They lived there for 11 years, farming with horses, picking corn by hand. In 1952, they built their second home before eventually moving to Kimball in 1981. They lived on

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