



The barns on the J.W. Schwerer farm

cally killed in an accident. Clara was a school teacher and taught at Thompson College.

J.W. was very progressive for his time. He built two houses that are still standing and remain in the Schwerer family and numerous barns that are still being used today. Their legacy was passed to their only child, a son, Louis Schwerer. Louis was born Sept. 23, 1896. He attended Gem City College in Quincy and Knox College in Galesburg. At a dance in Carthage, IL he met his future bride, Edna Peyton. They married Nov. 12, 1921 in Keokuk, IA. Edna was also a school teacher in her earlier years and taught at Warsaw.

Edna was born and raised in Warsaw, IL. She was the daughter of Alberum and Mary Peyton. Edna's ancestors came from England and were the first farm settlers in Warsaw Township, settling there in 1830. She graduated from the University of Illinois.

Louis and Edna continued to build on the legacy left them by J.W. and Clara. They raised two children, Evelyn Elaine and Joseph. Evelyn married and moved to California while Joseph was the next generation to continue with the farm. He attended the University of Illinois and married Patricia Langford on Aug. 15, 1952.

While attending the University, Joe learned of the use of anhydrous ammonia. He brought the information home and he and his father were the first farmers in Hire Township to use anhydrous ammonia to grow corn. Also, in 2001 Joe entered the National Corn Growers Yield Contest for the first time and was the State winner in Illinois.

Patricia was the daughter of Vick and Irene (Raper) Langford. Patricia's ancestors came from Switzerland. Patricia's mother, Irene, at-



The house that J.W. Schwerer built in 1916

tended Western Illinois University and was a school teacher. Irene's family settled in Schuyler County in the 1800s. Patricia's father, Vick, received his Master's Degree from Columbia University in New York and was involved in school administration in Illinois. Patricia also attended Western and the University of Illinois. Patricia taught school in Good Hope until her retirement in 1994. Together, Joe and Patricia raised three sons: Scott, Doug and Chris. The family still owns the original farms dating back to the 1800s in McDonough, Hancock and Schuyler Counties.

Today Chris, his nephew, Adam and Chris' son, Jared, continue to farm the land their ancestors acquired and use the barns that J.W. built.

SCOTT – The Richard Arlyn and Elizabeth (Neff) Scott family history began in 1953 in McDonough County when they arrived in Macomb to enroll at Western Illinois University. Richard was from Schuyler County and Elizabeth from Hancock County. Richard had just been discharged from the Army at the end of the Korean War. In May, Elizabeth had graduated from Carthage Community High School.

Richard Arlyn Scott was born near Rushville, IL on Sept. 21, 1929. He was the only son of Ada Irene (Ward) and John Claudius Scott. The Ward and Scott families were early settlers of Schuyler County. Richard's only sibling was Mrs. John (Virginia Scott) Campbell. Richard attended the Ridgeville Country School for six years, than four years at Browning and two years at Astoria, graduating in 1947. During the years of 1951-1953, Richard served in Korea as a signal corps radio repairman, being honorably discharged in 1953 as sergeant.

Elizabeth was born July 5, 1935 in Hancock County, the oldest daughter of 13 chil-

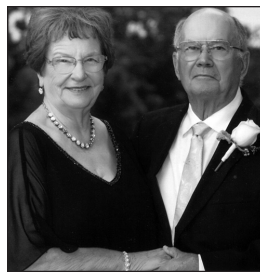
dren. Her parents were Harold and Daisy (Rogers) Neff. Elizabeth's parents were both life long residents of Hancock County. She served in many leadership roles of various academic and social organizations over the years as Delta Kappa Gamma, the Presbyterian Church of Bushnell, and the McDonough County District Hospital Auxiliary.

Elizabeth's family's introduction to McDonough County actually began near the small hamlet of Pennington Point, southwest of Adair, IL. Her paternal great-grandparents, Rebecca (Hamm) and Henry S. Neff were both born in York County, PA. In their early life they moved to McDonough County in 1873. As a young adult, their youngest child, Chapin C. Neff, moved to Hancock County where he met and married Lucy M. Seigfried. They were the parents of Elizabeth's father, Harold.

After college graduations in 1957, Richard and Elizabeth began their teaching careers in McDonough County. Richard taught Biology at Bushnell-Prairie City High School. Elizabeth taught elementary school in Macomb at MacArthur and Logan Grade Schools for nine years.

The couple was married June 7, 1959 at the First Presbyterian Church in Macomb. On Jan. 24, 1960 their daughter, Julia Lynn, was born at the new McDonough County District Hospital. The family moved to 129 West Harris, Bushnell, IL in 1966 where they resided through the years.

Richard taught for the Bushnell-Prairie City School system for 31 years. He earned his master's degree from Western in 1962. While working on his master's degree, he discovered a new species of insect. On his birthday in 1958, he collected a sample of small insects that he could not identify with any available literature. With little art ability, he decided to use photography as a means of illustrations in the thesis. The unidentified insects were sent to a national authority on "springtails." An entomologist established them as a new species named *Dicyrtoma macomba* Wray in honor of the city in which they were found, Macomb, IL. Affectionately known as "Doc Scott" by students and colleagues at B-PC, he taught biology, general science, physiology, psychology and sponsored the science club. Since photography had become a special interest for Richard, he also sponsored a photography club. He and its members took and printed many of the pictures used in the B-PC yearbooks. From 1965 through 1969, Richard worked as a ranger naturalist during the summers at Yellowstone National Park. He loved the outdoors and spent many adventures canoeing, hiking and enjoying the beauty of the national parks. He was an ardent supporter and defender of environmental and wildlife causes. For 17 years, Richard served on the Bushnell Library Board. Richard was an avid gardener specializing in raising tomatoes. After retiring from teaching in 1988, his interest in photography continued when he established Scott's Photography. In addition to graduation pictures, he specialized in weddings, senior pictures and family and class reunions. Elizabeth often assisted in the business, especially at the more than 285 weddings he photographed. A large percent



Elizabeth (Neff) and Richard Scott