

James F + Fern A
Bovee
God Bless You

James and Fern Bovee

Submitted by Their Daughter Dorothy Bovee Clark

James Francis "Jamie," Bovee and Anna "Fern" Marty were married on July 7, 1922 in Milwaukee. They made their home on the farm which had been in the Bovee family for three generations. In 1925, their daughter Dorothy was born at Dr. Fitzgerald's hospital which was located across from the present day Eagle Historical Society. A son, James "Marty," was born in 1931.

Fern and Jamie raised dairy cows, chickens, ducks, geese, hogs, and an array of other animals. They grew crops, maintained an orchard, and tended a large garden which helped supplement the family during the lean years of the Great Depression.

In addition to raising a family and her busy role as a farmwife, Fern worked in various factory jobs in the surrounding towns of Palmyra, East Troy, and Waukesha, sometimes commuting with a neighbor or driving the old family Ford. During World War II, she worked in a plant which produced life rafts for the war effort. She was interested in politics and voted in the first election after women were granted the right to vote in 1920.

Jamie, in addition to being a farmer, served for 40 years on the Eagle Town Board as Supervisor and then Chairman, and on the Waukesha County Board. He joined the Robert Morris Masonic Lodge in 1920 and was a member for 71 years.

Fern and Jamie were married for 67 years until Fern passed away in 1990. Together they became the fourth generation of land stewards for the Bovee Farm. They are dearly missed by their daughter and four grandchildren.

