## An ardent voice for the farmers

Graham John (Sam) Pfeiffer

Farming leader and dedicated social worker

Born: December 29, 1932; Renmark Died: November 5, 2005; Renmark

AM Pfeiffer worked hard and developed a close affinity with the land and an appreciation of the relationship between man and the forces of nature. He also worked hard to help others'in the farming community.

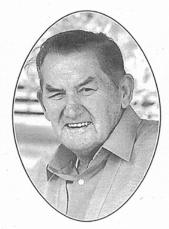
He was the second child of Alfred and Martha Gertrude Pfeiffer and had two sisters and four brothers.

Sam was educated at Renmark primary and secondary schools and then worked in the then Bank of New South Wales, a hardware store and with his father on the family fruit property, before setting out to realise his dream of being a farmer.

He advertised himself in the Chronicle as a "fit young man keen to learn about farming". He received several replies to the ad but chose to work at Cooke Plains with Ross Irvine, who taught him every facet of farming.

In 1955, Sam and Judy Spurting were married and, in 1957, they moved to Moorook West to begin share-farming the property they eventually bought.

Sam became involved in the Wunkar Agricultural Bureau and the Wunkar New Residence Branch of the Wheat & Wool Growers Association (later to become United Farmers & Stockowners, which is



now known as the South Australian Farmers Federation).

Never afraid to speak out on matters that concerned him and his fellow farmers, Sam held many positions in a number of farmers' organisations.

Sam's ability to think things through quickly and then present a concise summary of the subject matter usually meant that if there was a problem anywhere in the farming industry he was the spokesman for his fellow farmers.

In 1976. Sam was selected to join an

Australian team in Libya. He took on the role as crop production field manager, demonstrating the SA dry-land farming system to the Libyan government.

As a result, he and Judy spent three years in Libya.

On returning to Australia, Sam resumed farming and became involved in agricultural politics.

His commitment to his peers and his industry was recognised when he was honoured with life membership of the UF&S in 1989.

His leadership qualities came to the fore again and he also held many positions in the local, district and state levels of the Lutheran Church:

Sam loved music and played in the Riverland Brass Band from his teen years until a few weeks before his death.

Retirement in 1996 brought Sam and Judy back to Renmark.

However, not one to be idle for long, Sam was soon into his new way of life as a volunteer, bus driving for the Berri Special School and the Renmark Day Care Centre, singing at the hostel and nursing home, joining the RSL and Probus, working with Lutheran Community Care and especially with the elderly around town.

Sam is survived by his wife, Judy, and children Diana and Andrew, and their families, four brothers and one sister.

Judy Pfeiffer