

## NELSON

Continued from page 1

Waukon.

He accepted a position in Jefferson to be closer to his family here, where his father was battling cancer. The night before he was to start there, his father passed away. The neighborhood came to help harvest the crops, and Nelson will never forget the neighborly feel that was exhibited to his family in that difficult time.

After spending a year and a half in Jefferson, Paul and his wife Jina moved to Greenfield in 1989, where they continued raising their family. Nelson went to work at First Interstate Bank here, then it became Boatmen's Bank. He then went to work for Ron Kniep, who was then President of Union State Bank, and he has been there for 30 1/2

years.

"From my experience growing up on a farm, I could hopefully advise people at times. As you experience things, you learn from that experience. Hopefully that will help you make decisions with people in the future," Nelson said. "I'm very conservative, and hopefully that has helped people throughout the years too. I love the farm and have a passion for people who choose to farm because between the weather, insects, markets and government programs, it's a risky business and those are things you can't control. You have to be flexible with farmers, realize there's ups and downs, and ask yourself whether you're going to stay with them through the good and bad times."

Nelson not only cemented himself in banking, he

did so in the community. Throughout the years he was a member of many organizations and boards.

He was a longtime member of the Lions and Optimist Clubs, served on the Extension Council, Greenfield Library Board, was an Adair County Memorial Hospital Trustee and an Adair County Health Foundation Board member. He served on the Greenfield Development Corporation Board, was Greenfield Chamber President, served on the Senior Housing Board, Pancake Day Committee, July Fourth Committee and is on the leadership team at Cornerstone Fellowship Church.

On a wider scale, Nelson also served on boards for Southern Iowa Rural Housing Authority Board and Southern Iowa Council of Governments.

Nelson ran the clock

at basketball games for a long time and loved coaching AAU soccer and basketball. He remains very active today, still doing 375 pushups and running 3.1 miles daily. He used the same calculator for the first 37 years of his career and has moved the same piano 14 times to various houses his family has called home.

"One thing about doing any job is that people can tell if you care about them, versus just doing the job or task. Hopefully it has shown that I do truly care about people and how they're doing," Nelson said. "I think it bodes well in relationships when they know that you feel their lives do matter. That was part of the celebration. It was neat to hear you have a positive impact on people. It's not just the job you do, it's the relationships you have."