Mr. Anderson was born in Pamona, Kansas in a log cabin. He came to El Dorado in 1918 where he worked as a contractor in the early oilfields. In 1943, with a growing family, Mr. Anderson became a pioneer of one of the first reclaiming oil businesses and marketer of crude oil settlement, or BSW, and waste oil. With his wife, Capitola, they made John R. Anderson Tank Cleaning a family business. He retired in 1969 at the age of 72. His honesty, integrity and innovative and compassionate nature helped him build a business that contributed to the betterment of his family, community and the environment. He rose from the depths of the depression to become a highly respected and successful citizen of El Dorado, Kansas.