

Peter M. Knudsen, 93

Harlan — Peter Marinus Knudsen, son of Rasmus and Mary Johansen Knudsen, was born June 1, 1887, on a farm near Fiscus. He attended the country school and grew to adulthood on the family farm and then began farming in 1906.

On March 25, 1909, he married Olga Sophie Jacobsen at Merrill's Grove Baptist church in Fiscus. Four children were born to this union. After their marriage, they continued to farm for a short time and in 1921, they moved into Harlan where Peter worked at the Carl and Troyer Furniture Store. He then began painting and paper hanging, which he did for many years. After Olga's death on July 17, 1959, Mr Knudsen continued to paint.

On Aug. 19, 1960, he married Dagmar Ottomie Mork. Mr Knudsen continued to paint until his mid 80's when he painted his last house. In May of 1977, Mrs Knudsen became a resident of the Baptist Memorial Home, where she died on Nov. 5, 1977. Mr Knudsen became a resident in Sept. of 1977, and has resided there ever since. Peter was a member of Merrill's Grove Baptist church and later transferred his membership to the First Baptist church of Harlan. He passed away at Myrtue Memorial hospital in Harlan on Tuesday, Dec. 23, 1980, at age of 93 years, six months and 23 days.

In addition to Olga and Dagmar, Peter was preceded in death by his parents, his sister, Mary and his step sister, Henny. Survivors include three sons, Marvin of Des Moines, Wilmer and Jack, both of Harlan; one daughter, Agnes (Mrs Harold) Shaffer of Des Moines; one step son, James Mork of Manning; seven grandchildren and 16 great grandchildren and two step grandchildren and other relatives.

Funeral services were held at Pauley Funeral Home in Harlan on Friday, Dec. 26, 1980 with Pastor C. Donald Thrash of the First Baptist church, officiating. Burial was in Harlan cemetery with James Mork, Edward John, Hugh Mortensen, Dr. Bruce Havick, Robert E. Lansman and William H. Ahlers, Jr. serving as casketbearers.
