

The Life Story of --

GERHART PETERSEN, 71

JACKSON — Gerhart Peter

Petersen, son of Senius and Sena Petersen, was born May 4, 1903, in Denmark. He died at the Myrtue Memorial hospital in Harlan, on Mar. 22, 1975, at age 71 years, 10 months and 18 days. When he was 3 years old, he came to the U.S. with his parents to settle on a farm near Jacksonville. He grew to adulthood in this vicinity, attending Polk and Jackson township country schools. On Aug. 18, 1926, he married Grace Gaer at the Bethlehem Lutheran church, near Jacksonville. Three children were born to this union. After their marriage, Mr and Mrs Petersen lived near Jacksonville, where Mr Petersen worked for many years as a carpenter and butcher. In 1942 he was employed by Shelby county where he was shop foreman for many years. After his retirement in 1968, Mr and Mrs Petersen continued to make their home in Jacksonville. In 1974 they were privileged to celebrate their 48th wedding anniversary. Gerhart was baptized and confirmed in the Lutheran church and has been a member of Bethlehem Lutheran church all of his adult life.

He was preceded in death by his parents and an infant sister - Elma. In addition to his wife, Grace, of Harlan, he is survived by one daughter, Shirley (Mrs Richard Mattice) of Rockport, Mo., and two sons - Lyle G. Petersen of Elk Horn, and Arlo E. Petersen of Jacksonville, 11 grandchildren and six great grandchildren; by two sisters - Elma (Mrs Dallas Dent) and Inez (Mrs Hans Hansen) both of Harlan; one brother - Leo Petersen of Co. Bluffs; nieces and nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Monday, Mar. 24, 1975, at the Bethlehem Lutheran church in Jacksonville, with Rev. Holger Nielsen and David K. Dvorak officiating. Burial was in the Jacksonville cemetery with Rickey Petersen, Lonny Petersen, Ron Ronfeldt, Lynn Hansen, Manuel Herrera, Eugene Gaer, Ed Campbell and George Larsen serving as casketbearers.