

Russell E. Brooks, 72

Feb. 27, 1922 - Dec. 22, 1994

Harlan - Russell Earl Brooks, son of Peter Earl and Jewel (Roberts) Brooks was born Feb. 27, 1922 near Keosauqua. He attended country school, Troy grade school and graduated in 1938 from the Troy High School. Oct. 20, 1942, he enlisted in the United States Navy. He served his country during World War II at the Naval Training Stations at both Great Lakes, IL and Bloomington, IN. Later he served on the USS Philip Destroyer overseas in the South Pacific, attaining the rank of Storekeeper 1st Class. After his honorable discharge March 12, 1946, he continued his education at Parson's College in Fairfield. He then graduated in 1950 with a degree in Business Administration and Education and taught school for a short time.

June 6, 1948 he married Mary Thomas at the Troy Methodist Church in Troy. To this union four children were born. They lived in Fairfield until they moved to Nebraska City, NE where he was a territory manager for Nutrena Mills and was transferred to Harlan in 1953. He continued to be employed by Nutrena Mills until 1962 when he opened his own Securities and Commodities office in Harlan. He has been a member of the Chicago Mercantile Exchange and Open Board of Trade of Chicago where he traded in commodities. He died at his home in Harlan Dec. 22, 1994 at age 72 years, 9 months and 25 days.

He was also a member of the First United Methodist Church in Troy, a member of the Abu-Bekr Shrine of Sioux City, Parian Masonic Lodge No. 321 A.F. & A.M., Shelby County V.F.W. Post No. 941 and a 50 year member of Helmer Reyelt American Legion Post No. 150. He was active in many community activities, including the Harlan Band Parents.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a brother Donald Dean Brooks. He is survived by his wife Mary of Harlan; his children, George (Cindy) Brooks of Harlan, Linda (Allen) Schmeling of Spirit Lake, John (Anita) Brooks of St. Joseph, MO, and James Brooks of Chicago, IL; one sister, Luzon (John) Botts of Albia, and one brother Harold (Norma) Jean Brooks of West Liberty; six grandchildren and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Dec. 26, 1994 at the First United Methodist Church in Harlan with Rev. Paul Wilcox officiating. Military rites were conducted in the Harlan cemetery by the American Legion, Helmer Reyelt Post #150 and the Shelby County V.F.W., Post #941, both of Harlan. Casket bearers were Robert D. Christensen, Quentin Rickers, Ed Swank, Dennis Wooden, Frank "Rusty" Wirth and Richard Heilesen. Pauley Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.