

## Donald E. Blakely, 80

Nov. 8, 1917 - Jan. 14, 1998

**HARLAN** - Donald Eugene Blakely, son of Henry King and Lola Ann (Burgett) Blakely, was born in Lincoln Township, Nov. 8, 1917. He attended school in Lincoln Township and graduated from the Harlan High School in 1935, and was a graduate of the Lincoln School of Commerce. Dec. 24, 1938, he married Darlene J. Nielsen at the Methodist Church in Harlan. They were the parents of one daughter, Marcia. He worked for the Harlan National Bank for three years and then was employed at the Shelby County State Bank from 1941 until his retirement Jan. 1, 1983. While working at the Shelby County State Bank, he served in many capacities including vice-president. He was a member of the Board of Directors and served them as board secretary. He served as secretary treasurer to the Harlan School Board for 29 years. He is a Mason, a Shriner, has served on the Harlan Planning Board, the Library Board, Community Chest Board, Salvation Army Board, City Council and Harlan Utility Board. After retirement, Don became a real estate broker and spent much time in farm management. His hobby was his farm and building his purebred Angus cow-calf herd. He entered the Armed Forces of the U.S. Army Dec. 26, 1942. He was assigned to the Finance Branch of Service at Fitzsimmons Hospital in Denver, CO, where he served until he was discharged. He was a charter member of the First Baptist Church. He had served his church as a Sunday School teacher, usher, financial secretary, treasurer, deacon and moderator. He was currently a resident of the Baptist Memorial Home. He died Jan. 14, 1998, at Myrtue Memorial Hospital at age 80 years, two months and six days.

Don was preceded in death by his parents. Survivors include his wife, Darlene of Harlan; his daughter, Marcia (Lyle) Walker of Harlan; two grandchildren, Jeremy and Amy Walker also of Harlan; his sister, Ruth (Roy) Linton of Harlan; his brother, Floyd Blakely (Jean) of Iowa City; his sister, Iona (Charles) Underwood of Omaha; nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Jan. 16, 1998 at the First Baptist Church in Harlan, with Rev. John E. Hester officiating. Burial was in the Harlan Cemetery with Victor Julius, H. Rand Petersen, Gordon Paulk, Ray Chipman, Gary Hall, Clifford Hanson, Richard Wittrup and Myron Sorensen honorary casket bearers. Casket bearers were Jerry Larson, Lamont Christensen, Charles Early, Floyd L. Andersen, Dale E. Sorensen and Arlin D. Sorensen. Pauley Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.