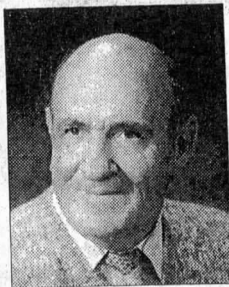


Vernon Blum, 77

Feb. 14, 1929 - Dec. 2, 2006

HARLAN — Vernon Peter Blum, the first of eleven children of Eleanor (Pauley) and Martin "Chris" Blum, was born Feb. 14, 1929, on a farm near Panama. He was baptized and confirmed at St. Mary's of the Assumption Catholic Church in Panama and attended St. Mary's Catholic School, graduating with the class of 1947. After graduation, he helped his dad on the farm and did part-time work at the Fullerton Lumberyard. In April of 1951, he was drafted into the United States Army and spent two years serving his country stationed in Anchorage, AK. He was honorably discharged in 1953.



Vernon married Irene Kloewer in December of 1954. They began farming after their marriage and became parents to six children, Deborah, Anita, Sharon, Brenda, Dennis, and Glen. He farmed until they moved to Harlan in 1977. He belonged to the American Legion in Harlan and was a lifetime member of the Disabled American Vets. He had lived at the Westridge Apartments, the Baptist Home and later at Elm Crest Assisted Living, all in Harlan, until he moved to the Salem Lutheran Home in Elk Horn after being diagnosed with prostate cancer in 2001. He resided at Salem Lutheran Home until his death Dec. 2, 2006, at age 77 years, nine months, and 18 days.

In addition to his parents, Vernon was preceded in death by a grandchild, Amy Michel, and three sisters, Virginia, Mary, and Audrey. He is survived by his children, Deborah (Max) Maxwell of Mount Pleasant, SC; Anita (Dale) Michel of Woodbine; Sharon Cherry of Aurora, CO; Brenda (Michael) Keegan of Littleton, CO; Dennis (Kristen) Blum of Seattle, WA; and Glen Blum of Portland, OR; 15 grandchildren; one great grandchild; his brothers and sisters, Chris, Jr. (Pat) Blum of Portsmouth; Charles Blum of Panama; Sr. Joyce Blum of Carroll; Emil Blum of Omaha, NE; Alice (Jerry) Zimmerman of Minden; Jean (LeRoy) Heese of Defiance; Judy (Fred) Clark of Omaha, NE; his brothers-in-law, Louis Wingert of Panama and Dennis Smith of Plattsmouth, NE; nieces and nephews and other relatives.

Mass of Christian Burial was held Dec. 6, 2006, with Rev. Robert Hoefler officiating at St. Michael's Catholic Church. His grandchildren, nieces, and nephews served as casket bearers. Burial was in the Harlan Cemetery. Pauley Jones Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.