

## Orval Wade Burchett, 74 ✓

April 14, 1923 - July 13, 1997

**TUCSON, AZ** - Orval Wade Burchett, 74, died July 13, 1997, at his home in Tucson, AZ. Wade was born on a family farm near Grand River, April 14, 1923, son of the late Orval Burchett and Alice Coon Burchett. After World War II, Wade returned to the family farm for two years. He then joined the Des Moines firm of Herman M. Brown as a sales representative selling heavy industrial equipment. Wade was president emeritus of the Sta-Bilt Construction Co. in Harlan. He and his wife, Yvonne, have spent their winters in Tucson for 15 years and have been permanently in Tucson for the past two years.

Wade taught country school in Decatur County, and attended Iowa State College. He met Yvonne when they were both students at Central State Teachers College in Stevens Point, WI. He was a member of the 97th College Training Detachment Air Crew. His college was cut short by his service as a B-29 pilot in World War II. He continued to enjoy flying for business and for pleasure for many years. His legacy continues on with six of his survivors engaged in flying endeavors. He attended Holy Trinity Catholic Parish in Tucson, AZ. He was a member of the 40th Bomb Group, Knights of Columbus, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Lions Club and American Legion. At age 21 Wade served Decatur County as a supervisor.

He is survived by his devoted wife of 53 years, Vonnie, and his children, Allen (Marty); Richard (Cindy); Marshall (Martha); Keith (Cheryl) all of Harlan; Mary (Bill), Des Moines and Michelle (Terry), Omaha; 15 grandchildren, Andy, Michael, Sara (Tom), Ryan, Garrett, Edward, Heather, Trisha, Scott, Ross, Jon (Tammy), Chandra, Jennifer, Nicholas and Sonja; his great grandchildren, Cassidy, Rylie, Hannah and Elizabeth; his sister, Wilda (Noel) Boles, and a brother, Wayne (Gayle) Burchett of Grand River; nieces, nephews and other relatives.

A memorial service was held July 19, 1997, at Pauley Funeral Home with Rev. Rex Piercy officiating. Honorary pallbearers were Buck Barger, Harold "Swede" Johnson, Dick Brown, Rich Millins, H. Clay Pauley and Nick Dozoryst. Pallbearers were the grandchildren: Jon G. Breheny, Sara C. Wilson, M. Ed. Burchett, Chandra D. Breheny, Ryan P. Burchett, Heather M. Burchett, Scott A. Burchett, Trisha E. Burchett, Andy W. Burchett, Ross L. Burchett, Garrett D. Burchett, Mike A. Burchett, Jennifer N. Breheny, Sonja R. Williams and Nick A. Breheny. Pauley Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

