

Paul Corey, 89

July 8, 1903-Dec. 17, 1992

SONOMA VALLEY, CA. — Paul Corey, writer, home-builder, animal advocate and a 45-year resident of Sonoma Valley, CA., died of a cerebral hemorrhage Dec. 17, 1992. He was 89.

Born in the family farmhouse near Marne in Shelby County July 8, 1903, he was the last of seven children. Although funds were scarce when it came time for college, the Coreys "made do" and he who had worked at a variety of jobs throughout his school years — attended the University of Iowa, earning his bachelor of arts degree in 1925.

His writing career began shortly thereafter with work as a reporter for a financial journal in Chicago, and later for the Real Estate Record and *Builder's Guide* in New York — the city in which he married his wife of over half a century, Ruth Lechlitner, nationally recognized poet, who died in 1989.

In Europe, Up-State New York, and since 1947 in Sonoma, CA.; he pursued his writing, turning out novels — including a trilogy of Iowa life; a science fiction classic, and a charming juvenile entitled *The Little Jeep*; a number of "do-it-yourself" home-building books; dozens of short stories and articles in magazines (*Scribner's*, *Argosy*, *Esquire*, *Workbench*, *Look*, *Defenders of Wildlife*, *Cat Fancy*, *Better Homes and Gardens*, *Popular Mechanics*, etc.); and the animal behavior books which have become his trademark. *Do Cats Think?* has been in print continuously since 1977. The current paperback edition, with all new illustrations, was released in 1991. His most recent published writing is the foreword to the homesteading letters of his older sister, Elizabeth Corey, published under the title of *Bachelor Bess* by the University of Iowa Press in Dec., 1990.

He is survived by his daughter, Anne Margaret of Fort Bidwell, CA.; a grandson, Alex David Mathews of Ventura, CA.; a sister-in-law, Lilah Morris of Marne; and numerous relatives in the Mid-West. Private cremation has been arranged by Bates & Evans.

Ralph Corey of Walnut, a nephew, has donated several of Corey's books to the Shelby County Historical Society.