

## Donald Churchill, 79

Oct. 29, 1918 - June 26, 1998

**WALNUT** - Donald Oliver Churchill was born in Woodbine, on Oct. 29, 1918, son of George and Ida Bintz Churchill. He was one of 10 children in the family. As a youngster, he spent his time helping his brothers and sisters. He graduated from high school in Woodbine, in 1936. He then attended Iowa School of the Deaf, graduating in 1938. He worked for a local cattlefeeder until he entered the United States Army, in November of 1942. He was stationed in Mississippi and on Cat Island, off the coast of Louisiana, where he trained security dogs. He was discharged from the Army in February of 1945. He worked briefly in an Omaha packing plant. He then went to Milford, NE, to attend a trade school and learn the blacksmithing trade. After attending school, he took his knowledge and bought a blacksmith's shop in Avoca, which he owned until his retirement. He belong to many organizations including: Masons, Shrine, Rotary and the American Legion. His honors include, Past President of Rotary, a Paul Harris Fellow, Past Master of Mt. Nebo Lodge and Iowa's Blacksmith of the Year. He died at his home at Peace Haven in Walnut, June 26, 1998, at age 79 years, seven months and 28 days.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his brother, Lester Churchill, and sister, Ida Mae Collins. He is survived by his brothers, George Churchill of Omaha; Paul Churchill (Irene) of Woodbine; and Ray Churchill (Juanita) of Dow City; his sisters, Gertrude (Dick) Ackerman of Salem, OR; Darlene Bouchereau of France; Fern (Gerald) Kenkel of Woodbine and Vera (Jim) Hummell of Wayne, NE; nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held June 30, 1998, at the United Church of Avoca with Mr. Wayne Paulsen officiating. Burial was in the Graceland Cemetery. Military graveside services were by the Avoca American Legion Post #227. Honorary casket bearers were Wayne Petersen, Russell Haworth and Francis Maassen. Casket bearers were the Avoca Rotary Club. Knutson Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.