

Russell Pope, 82

Oct. 14, 1928 - Jan. 12, 2011

HARLAN — Russell Lavern Pope was born October 14, 1928 in Arnold, NE to Emmett and Effie (Robison) Pope. He graduated from Arnold High School in 1946. He attended Chadron State Teachers College for 1 year then transferred to Kearney State Teachers College (KSTC, currently University of Nebraska at Kearney). At the end of his junior year he enlisted in the US Navy and was stationed at Saufley Naval Air Station at Pensacola FL. During his 4 year enlistment at Saufley, he played baseball for the Saufley team. He choose to return home and finish his education at KSTC, turning down offers from several professional



baseball teams, including the Chicago Cubs. He received his Bachelors and Masters Degrees from KSTC, then further continued his education to obtain Administrative Certification. He taught one year in Nebraska and 37 years in Iowa, the last 26 years for the Harlan Community Schools, retiring in 1993.

Russ met Rozella Croissant at KSTC when he returned to finish his degree following his service in the Navy. They were married the following year. Two children were born to this union, Tucker and Polly. Following his retirement in 1993, Russ and Rozella enjoyed the beach and golf with new friends at Hilton Head Island, SC. He enjoyed his special time with his coffee buddies and golfer pals at the Harlan Golf & County Club and many other Harlan friends. Russ was also a life-long Nebraska Cornhusker fan. Russ died on Wednesday, January 12, 2011 at Jennie Edmundson Hospital in Council Bluffs, having attained the age of eighty-two years, two months, and twenty-nine days.

Those left to cherish his memory are his wife Rozella; his son Tucker of Salt Lake City, UT; his daughter Polly and her husband Steve Russell of Portland, OR; sister Jeanette Zimmerman of Reno, NV; sisters-in-law Shirley Pope and Char Pope of Riverside, CA; sister-in-law Robin Thorell and husband Stuart of Waterford, MI and brother-in-law David Croissant of Kearney, NE; 4 nephews and 2 nieces and their families, and many friends. He is preceded in death by his parents and his brothers, John and Leroy.

The family greeted friends at Pauley Jones Funeral Home on Monday, January 17, 2010 from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. A reception followed at the Harlan Golf and Country Club. Inurnment will be held at a later date at Riverside National Cemetery on March Air Force Base in Riverside, CA.

*Pauley
L. Jones*

FUNERAL HOME & CREMATORY
(712) 755-3135 • (800) 831-6805
www.pauleyjones.com
Baldwin at 9th, Harlan, IA
Also in Avoca & Walnut