



## Lawrence Dale Torpy, 73

March 4, 1921 - Nov. 30, 1994

**Omaha** - Lawrence Dale Torpy was born March 4, 1921, at Irwin, the son of Daniel and Mary Farrington Torpy. He died Nov. 30, 1994, in Omaha after a lingering illness. He was treated periodically for 10 years at the Veteran's Hospital in Omaha. He was recognized as one of the outstanding arborists in the area. As a member of a national arborists' organization, he participated in planting a large evergreen on the White House lawn in Washington, D.C., which is lighted each year at Christmastime. He trained many members of the extended family to work in the tree business he established and operated "The Torpy Tree Service" in 1949. His two sons each owns and operates his own tree business at the present time with headquarters in Omaha. He attended the Irwin public schools and worked in the CCC (Civilian Conservation Corps.) Jan. 1, 1942.

he enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps and served in England and France during World War II. He was discharged as a Sergeant Dec. 15, 1945.

He married Marie Antonio Russoniello (Ann) in Newark, NJ Dec. 26, 1942. To them were born four children: Barbara Dale, Lauren Susan, Lawrence Dale, Jr., and Stephen Daniel. They celebrated their golden wedding anniversary Dec. 26, 1992.

He was preceded in death by his parents and brothers and spouses, D.D. and Elizabeth Torpy, Alvin Jennings Torpy, and Burle Daniel and Anna Torpy. He is survived by four children, Barbara Dale (Bill) Von Tersch, Lauren Susan Torpy, Lawrence Dale, Jr. (Terri) Torpy, and Stephen Daniel (Sue) Torpy; 12 grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren, a sister, Margaret (Gordon) Pedersen of Omaha; a brother, William (Etta) Torpy of Minneapolis, MN; a sister-in-law, Lois Bamsey Torpy of Denver, CO; sisters-in-law and brothers-in-law of Newark, NJ, Jo Gentile, Lucille(Harold) Ritchings, Michael (Nancy) Russoniello, Salvatore (Grace) Russoniello, and Emil Russoniello; nieces, nephews and other relatives.

A Funeral Mass was celebrated Dec. 2, 1994, at Christ The King Catholic Church in Omaha with the Rev. James M. Buckley, celebrant. Honorary pallbearers were Charles Talbitzer and Gordon Pedersen. Pallbearers were Lawrence Dale Torpy, Jr., Ronnie Von Tersch, John Rockwell, Stephen Torpy, Gary Cobb, William Torpy, William Von Tersch and Don Trotter. Burial was at Calvary cemetery, Omaha with full military honors, conducted by American Legion Post #1, of which Torpy was a long-time member.