

Harlan, Iowa Tribune

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## **Leonard Christian Larsen, 81**

**Oct. 2, 1914-Dec. 27, 1995**

**HARLAN** - Leonard Christian Larsen, son of Henry and Marie (Christensen) Larsen, was born Oct. 2, 1914, on a farm near Kimballton. At a very young age, he and his parents moved to a farm in Jackson Township. There he attended Jackson School No. 4, and grew to adulthood. As a young man, he worked on various farms.

Sept. 16, 1936, he married Bernice I. Graves at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Harlan. In the early 1950's, he was active in beginning the Little League baseball program in the Jacksonville area. The couple farmed east of Harlan for 37 years, and then moved into Harlan in Nov. 1979. She died March 17, 1994, at the couple's Harlan home. He was a baptized and confirmed member of Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Jacksonville. He died Dec. 17, 1995 at Myrtue Memorial Hospital at age 81 years, two months and 25 days.

Preceding him in death were his parents; his wife, Bernice; and one brother, Ivan. Survivors include one daughter, Beverly Nelsen Fancher of Baxter Springs, KS; three sons, Gary (Rose Ann) Larsen and James Larsen, all of Harlan, and Dennis (Mary Ann) Larsen of Ahwatukee, AZ; two sisters, Leona Jensen of Alexandria, MN, and Florence (Orvis) Behrens of Okoboji; 12 grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren, and two great-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Dec. 30, 1995, at Burmeister Funeral Home, with Pastor Jon Benson of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Harlan officiating. Casket bearers were Chad Nelsen, Mike Nelsen, Greg Larsen, Brad Larsen, Chris Larsen, Don Schlater, Kevin Kenkel, and Bob Lilienthal. Burial was in Harlan Cemetery.