

Alfred L. Leonard, Sr., 78

July 24, 1927 - Aug. 31, 2005

HARLAN — Alfred Leo Leonard, Sr., the son of Elmer Leo and Rose Lee Garnsey Leonard, was born July 24, 1927, at Redfield, SD. He attended school at Redfield, SD. He and his family moved to Bartlett, where he finished grade school and graduated high school as Valedictorian. Following graduation, he helped his parents on the farm. He joined the HQ and HQ Co 168th Infantry National Guard in Council Bluffs, in 1949. He was stationed at Fort Mammoth, NJ. Following his honorable discharge, he returned to Bartlett to farm.



June 14, 1953, Alfred married Bernice Ruth Petersen at Anderson Grove Church in Fort Crook, NE. The couple moved to Fort Crook after living in an apartment in Omaha for six months. Four children were born to this union, Elaine, Leo, Donald, and Char. They lived in Fort Crook where Alfred farmed for nine years. In 1962, they purchased a farm and relocated to Portsmouth, where they farmed until retiring in 1988. He worked at local golf courses and then in 1991, they moved to Harlan. He became a resident of Salem Lutheran Home in Elk Horn, in February 2003. He was a member of the Anderson Grove Presbyterian Church in Fort Crook, NE, and the Farm Bureau. He died Aug. 31, 2005, at Myrtue Memorial Hospital at age 78 years, one month and seven days.

In addition to his parents, Alfred was preceded in death by his infant son, Donald, and his twin brother, Albert Leonard. Survivors include his wife, Bernice Leonard of Harlan; his children, Elaine (Roger) Bruck of Persia; Leo Leonard (Denise) of Waterloo; Char (Denny) Arkfeld of Defiance; eight grandchildren; one great-grandchild; four step-grandchildren; two step great-grandchildren; his sister, Adelaide Hendrickson of Omaha, NE and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Sept. 3, 2005, at the First United Methodist Church in Harlan, with Rev. Dave Swinton officiating. Military rites were conducted in the Anderson Grove Presbyterian Cemetery in Bellevue, NE by the Nebraska Military Honors Team with Dr. Joe Scahill officiating. Casket bearers were Adam Bruck, Justin Leonard, Peggy Cole, Richard Bruck, Jenna Leonard, Keith Bruck, Nathan Leonard, and Ashley McDonald. Pauley Jones Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.