

✓ Maurice Lungren, 88

Oct. 9, 1916 - Sept. 6, 2005

NORMAN, OK — Maurice Carlson Lungren, was born Oct. 9, 1916, in Norborne, MO, to Oscar and Lottie May (Toomay) Lungren. He graduated from Stet High School at Stet, MO, in 1934 and joined the navy as an apprentice seaman in June, 1941. As a naval aviator he reached the rank of lieutenant and served as plane commander on PBMs and PBYs (Catalina Flying Boats, nicknamed the "Black Cats" because the planes were painted all black). He was one of the few navy pilots who earned a navy "Green Card" which showed he had achieved the highest rating for instrument flying at night. His duty in World War II was to search out and destroy enemy shipping at night from New Guinea, other islands, and Australia. He was part of the American occupation of Japan from September 1945 until February 1946. After completing his service in the navy he earned B.S. and M.S. degrees from the University of Kansas in Lawrence.



December 29, 1952, Maurice married Peace "Penny" Penningroth in Iowa City. He edited the News-Advertiser in Harlan, before joining the journalism faculty at the University of Kansas. In 1959 he became the training director for the Union Wire Rope Company in Kansas City and edited its company magazine, "The Voice of the Mill." For these articles he was honored with the 1961 medal from the Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge for outstanding achievement in bringing about a better understanding of the American way of life. In Kansas City also he was Secretary of The Downtown Committee.

In 1965 he began teaching journalism classes at Hastings College in Hastings, NE, before becoming Dean of Adult Education at Central Nebraska Community College. After retiring in 1981 he taught management classes for company supervisors throughout Nebraska. He was a member of Hastings First Presbyterian Church and served as elder and as Chairman of the Scholarship Committee. He was a member of the Kiwanis Club, served as its president and as Lt. Governor of the Kiwanis Nebraska-Iowa District. He belonged to the American Society of Training Directors and was on its national board. He was a member of the journalism fraternity Sigma Delta Chi and was president of the local chapter of the Senior Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE). He died Sept. 6, 2005 at his home in Norman, OK at age 88.

Maurice is survived by his wife, one daughter Judy Lungren of Spokane, WA, two sons John Lungren of Norman, OK and Jim Lungren of Grapevine, TX and three grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Sept. 10, 2005 at the Methodist Church in Braymer, MO with Dr. Rev. Judith May officiating. Burial was in the Mt. Olivet Cemetery at Norborn, MO. Pitts Funeral Home in Braymer, MO in charge of arrangements. Memorials may be given to the First Presbyterian Church in Hastings, NE or to the Hastings Kiwanis Club for its work with children and may be mailed to the Pitts Funeral Home, P.O. Box 247, Braymer, Missouri 64624