

✓ **Arthur John Nielsen, 86**

Jan. 5, 1911 - April 2, 1997

HARLAN - Arthur John Nielsen, son of John and Sophia (Paulsen) Nielsen, was born on Jan. 5, 1911, in Casey. He was raised in Kimballton, and was baptized and confirmed at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Kimballton. He graduated from Elk Horn High School.

May 4, 1938, at the Elk Horn Lutheran Church parsonage, he married LaVerne Fiscus. The couple farmed in the Exira, Fiscus and Redline areas for many years, retiring to Harlan in 1973. He was a member of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Harlan. He was active in several area groups, including the Good Roads Association and the Shelby County ARC (Association for Retarded Children). He had served as a rural school board director. Art was honored to be named Harlan's "Citizen of the Years" in 1984. To the delight of his family and friends, he greatly enjoyed playing Santa during the Christmas season. He died April 2, 1997, at Myrtue Memorial Hospital at age 86 years, two months and 28 days.

Preceding him in death were his parents; one brother, Ralph Nielsen; and four sisters, Dagmar, Mary, Edna and one in infancy. Survivors include his wife of 58 years, LaVerne Nielsen of Harlan; one daughter, Ardith (George) Forsyth of Nevada; one sister, Johanna Nielsen of Atlantic; two grandsons, Eric (Michelle) Forsyth of Dayton, OH and Gregory (Christine) Forsyth of Newton; one great granddaughter, Emily Forsyth of Newton and nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held April 5, 1997, at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Harlan, with Pastor Jon Benson officiating. Casket bearers were Marlin Petersen, Randy Fiscus, Keith Fiscus, Lyle Fiscus, Terry Fiscus and Emmert Juhl. Burial was in the Immanuel Lutheran Cemetery in Kimballton. Burmeister Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.