

Harlan, Iowa Tribune

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## **Bill Robbins, 84**

**1907 — 1991**

Bill Robbins, 84, died Aug. 13, 1991, at St. Mary's Regional Health Center in Detroit Lakes, MN. He was a former Harlan newspaper editor. A native of Castana, IA., Bill Robbins, son of Roscoe and Gracia Rawlings Robbins, was born Aug. 9, 1907, grew up there, and earned a journalism degree from the University of South Dakota in 1931.

Early in his newspaper career, he was a reporter with the Culver City (CA.) Citizen; then was editor of the Harlan (IA.) News Advertiser and later was manager-editor of the Corydon (IA.) Times Republican.

He enlisted in the U.S. Navy early in 1941, became a commissioned officer and served as a combat photographer aboard the aircraft carrier U.S.S. Langley and other ships in the Pacific theatre. Prior to moving to Detroit Lakes, he was co-owner of a newspaper feature and advertising service based at Harlan.

He purchased the Becker County Record from B.L. "Jack" Benshoof and Roger G. Hamilton in 1961 and was owner/publisher of the weekly paper until Oct., 1963, when it was sold. He remained with the Detroit Lakes Newspapers until joining KDLM Radio in 1968 as news director and later as editorial director.

While with KDLM Radio, he frequently contributed articles on radio editorializing and news reporting to a variety of publications. He retired from his duties with the Detroit Lakes radio station in 1982.

Willard G. Robbins and Mary M. Drury were married at Corydon, Nov. 28, 1940. She died Feb. 2, 1981.

Surviving are a daughter, Mrs Greer (Rita) Nielsen, Seattle, WA., and three grandchildren.