

# Doctor, HCHS booster Joseph Spearing dies

## HARLAN -

A former family physician for the Harlan community and longtime Harlan Community Schools booster died Tuesday, Jan. 25.



**Dr. Joseph  
Spearing**

Dr. Joseph Spearing, who patented the phrase "Hit 'em in the backfield" during HCHS football games, died at Myrtue Memorial Hospital. He was 84 years old.

# Physican, booster Joseph Spearing dies

## **Spearing** *from front page*

Spearing was noted for the number of babies he delivered throughout the years. He was the 1972 Harlan Citizen of the Year.

Spearing was an avid school booster, supporting not only athletics but the band and academic programs as well.

More recently, the Harlan community paid tribute to Spearing and his years of service by dedicating a new park in his honor. Dr. Joseph Spearing Park is

located on the southwest part of Harlan, adjacent to the golf course in the new housing subdivision.

A graduate of the University of Kansas School of Medicine, he practiced medicine in Harlan since 1948, coming to Harlan from Jennie Edmundson Hospital in Council Bluffs, where he was rotating resident doctor.

He was a veteran, having served in the Army.

Services for Spearing will be held Saturday, Jan. 29 at 11 a.m. at Pauley Jones Funeral Home

in Harlan, with burial following in the Harlan Cemetery. ~~Visitation will be~~ Friday, Jan. 28, with family greeting friends from 7-8:30 p.m. at the funeral home. A communion service will be held at St. Paul's Episcopal Church at 10 a.m. on Saturday.

Spearing is survived by his wife, Carolyn, of Harlan; daughter Anne (J.T.) Adam of Alliance, Neb.; son John (Luann) Spearing of Cartersville, Ga.; and four grandchildren.