

## Howard M. Vest, 62

Irwin — Howard Marvin Vest, son of Everett and Laura McGee Vest, was born on a farm in Shelby county near Irwin, on June 2, 1917. He attended country schools around Irwin and later the Irwin school. As a young man he moved with his family to Defiance where he attended high school and grew to adulthood. After graduating from the Defiance Public high school in 1937, he made his home with his parents and worked on farms in the Irwin-Defiance area for several years.

He entered the Army in April of 1942 and served overseas in France, Central Europe and Africa during WW II. While in the service Howard was awarded numerous decorations and citations including the Purple Heart, Distinguished Unit Badge with a Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster, European-African-Middle Eastern Theater Ribbon with a Silver Battle Star, Four Overseas Service Bars, and one Service Stripe. After receiving his honorable discharge in Oct. of 1945, he returned to Shelby county and made his home with his mother in Irwin. Due to ill health, Howard retired in 1959. He died at his home on Sunday, Dec. 2, 1979, at age 62 years and six months. He had been a long time member of the Austin Earl Hiatt Post No. 614, American Legion of Irwin.

He was preceded in death by his father. Survivors include his mother, Laura Vest of Irwin; two brothers - Dale Vest of Co. Bluffs and Gene Vest of Perry; a sister, June (Mrs Walter Murray) of Irwin; nieces and nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held at Pauley Funeral Home in Harlan, on Wednesday, Dec. 5, 1979, with Leon V. Wallace, pastor of the Irwin United Methodist church, officiating. Burial was in the Oak Hill cemetery, Irwin, with Rollin Kuhl, Larry Knudson, John Williams, Donald D. Kutnink, Allan R. Thompson and Dennis Kasperbauer serving as casketbearers.