



## **John Wilson Allen, 66**

**March 9, 1928 - Oct. 12, 1994**

**Harlan** - John Wilson Allen, son of Harry Fred and Leila Kneeland Allen was born March 9, 1928 at Bear Grove Township, Guthrie Center. He was baptized and confirmed in the Methodist Church and attended school at Guthrie Center, graduating in 1950. He was raised on his parent's farm near Guthrie Center, and after graduation worked in a corn canning company in Northern Iowa. March 15, 1951, he entered the United States Army, serving his country during the Korean War. After his honorable discharge on Dec. 14, 1952 he returned to the Guthrie Center area.

Feb. 11, 1989 he married Elaine Gearhart at the Irwin United Methodist Church. He was a longtime Harlan resident who worked for the Soil Conservation Service of Shelby County for over thirty years. He was a member of the Guthrie Center Odd Fellows Lodge #113, the Shelby County Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #941, and was active in Shelby County Crime Stoppers. He helped organize the Heavy Metal Car Club in the 1980's and was in charge of Security at the Shelby County Fair. He had also worked for the Guthrie County Fair for nearly thirty years. He died Oct. 12, 1994 at Bishop Clarkson Hospital in Omaha at age 66 years, seven months and three days.

He is survived by his wife, Elaine Allen of Harlan, his son, William (Laurie) Allen of Harlan and his daughter, Brenda (Tris) Albright of Audubon, two grandchildren, a sister, Margaret (Gerard) Bancroft of Des Moines, three nieces and three nephews. He is also survived by Elaine's children; her son James (Betty) Briggs of Harlan, her daughters Annette (Randy) Madsen of Kimballton, Jennifer (Jeff) Nielsen of Harlan and Allison Gearhart of Harlan, Elaine's three grandchildren, and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Oct. 14, 1994 at the First United Methodist Church in Harlan with Rev. Paul Wilcox officiating. Burial was in the Harlan cemetery with Joe Wehr, Tom Merritt, Gene Cavanaugh, Dean Garnett, Kevin Petty and Mark Hervey casket bearers. Pauley Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.