

Paul Abel, 80

Oct. 20, 1925 - Aug. 29, 2006

- WALNUT — Paul Eugene Abel, son of Burl H. and Lydia B. (Smith) Abel, was born Oct. 20, 1925, in Silver City. He grew up on his parents' farm and attended school in Malvern. He later joined the United States Navy where he served as a baker aboard the US Cabot Aircraft Carrier during World War II.

Paul married Letha Mae Cadwell April 10, 1945, in Hiawatha, KS. They were the parents of five children, Lyle, Leslie, Sonya, Jodie, and Becky. Paul and his family lived and farmed in the Walnut area for over 46 years. He raised cattle and hogs, besides the regular farming operation. He was a mediator at the Assisted Living Center in Avoca. He also worked on his computer and had put together a computer slide show for the other residents. Paul was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Walnut, and the Walnut AmVets and VFW. His wife, Letha, died Oct. 15, 2002, and Paul continued to make his home at the Avoca Lodge Assisted Living Center. He died Aug. 29, 2006, at Avoca Lodge Assisted Living at age 80 years, 10 months and nine days.

In addition to his parents and his wife, Letha, Paul was preceded in death by his sister, Maxine Baldwin. He is survived by his children, Lyle Abel (Carolyn) of Tumwater, WA; Leslie Abel (Terri) of Walnut; Sonya Schuler (Larry) of Marne; Jodie Knudsen (Mark) of Atlantic; and Becky Thielen (Dave) of Elkhorn, NE; 11 grandchildren, Paul Abel; Mathew, Gavin and Derek Abel; Eric and Joshua Abel (Dina); Heather Cox (Brett); Dustin Van Horn; Christopher, Nicholas and Michaela Knudsen; five great-grandchildren, Justice Abel, Dillion Cox, Carter Cox, Jady Cox and Garret Van Horn; his brothers and sisters, Lorene Sieck of Walnut; Lucille Christensen (Dale) of Atlantic; Howard Abel (Addielee) of Wheatland, MO; and Don Abel (Inez) of Walnut; his special friend, Mada Wahling; nieces and nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Sept. 2, 2006, at the First Presbyterian Church in Walnut, with Pastor David Krueger officiating. Honorary casket bearers were Justice Abel, Jady Cox, Dillion Cox, Garret Van Horn and Carter Cox. Casket bearers were Paul Abel, Mathew Abel, Gavin Abel, Joshua Abel, Michaela Knudsen, Christopher Knudsen, Dustin Van Horn, Eric Abel, Heather Cox, Derek Abel and Nicholas Knudsen. Burial was in Southlawn Cemetery in Atlantic. Pauley Jones Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.