

## Henry Arkfeld, 86

Jan. 4, 1921 - June 5, 2007

**PANAMA** — Henry James "Hank" Arkfeld, son of John and Mary (Keane) Arkfeld, was born Jan. 4, 1921, on a farm west of Panama. He was baptized and confirmed at St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church in Panama. He attended St. Mary's Catholic School in Panama and then went on to graduate from Harlan Community High School with the class of 1939. After high school, Henry did road construction work in Northern Iowa and in Colorado. He joined the United States Navy Aug. 15, 1942, and served 23 months as a clerk in Hawaii during World War II. He saw action off the coast of Okinawa when he was assigned to the USS *Soubarissen*. He received his honorable discharge from the Navy Nov. 6, 1946. Upon his return to Iowa, he became a rural letter carrier and was assigned the route out of Panama Feb. 2, 1948. Later he was transferred to Harlan and worked 32 1/2 years as a rural carrier.

June 24, 1948, Henry married Irene D. Graeve at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Earling. To this union nine children were born, Laura, Daniel, Patrick, Timothy, twins Jane and Joanne, Phillip, Denise, and Deanna. Henry and Irene owned and operated Arkfeld Studio from 1948 until 1980 when their daughter, Laura, and son-in-law, Mike Mohr, purchased Logeland Studio in Harlan. They made their home in Panama all their married life. Henry served as Grand Knight of the Knights of Columbus Earling Council 1741 for a two-year term. He has been a member of the Knights of Columbus for sixty-two years. Henry was a member of the Luke E. Harl 4th Degree Knights of Columbus and the Chalice Club. He was also a member of the Panama American Legion Post No. 601 for 60 years and served two terms as Commander. In September of 1948, Henry became a member of the National and State Rural Letter Carriers Association. He was very active in the association and served state treasurer for 10 years from 1965 to 1975. He was district secretary for seven years and held various county offices for a number of years. He died June 5, 2007, at age 86 years, five months, and one day.

Henry was preceded in death by his parents; his brothers, Thomas and Francis; and his sisters, Madeline and Ann Louise. He is survived by his wife of nearly 59 years, Irene of Panama; his children, Laura Arkfeld-Mohr of Harlan; Daniel Arkfeld (Jeanne) of Westerville, OH; Patrick Arkfeld (Denise) of Fresno, CA; Timothy Arkfeld (Denise) of Maderia, OH; Joanne (Donald) Ozbun of Atlantic; Jane (Richard) Hodapp of Matthews, NC; Phillip Arkfeld (Laura) of Chino Hills, CA; Denise (Scott) Assmann of Portsmouth; and Deanna (Roger) Schwery of Jacksonville; his brother, John Arkfeld of Omaha, NE; his sister, Judy Knott of Harlan; 26 grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; nieces, nephews and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held June 9, 2007, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Panama with Rev. John Dorton officiating. Honorary casket bearers were George Schwery, Rollie Hansen, Charlie Albrecht, Gerald Schafer, Richard Arkfeld, Steve Barratt, Don Hoffman, and Duane Nepl. Casket bearers were Craig Arkfeld, Stephen Hodapp, Sam Hodapp, Todd Arkfeld, James Arkfeld, and Larry Arkfeld. Military rites were held by the Panama American Legion Post No. 601 at St. Mary's Cemetery in Panama. Pauley Jones Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

