

## Clarence Christensen, 77

Aug. 14, 1924 - Sept. 28, 2001

**AVOCA** - Clarence Fred Christensen was born Aug. 14, 1924, in Avoca, son of Clarence and Agnes O'Neill Christensen. He was one of two children in the family. Clarence was baptized Sept. 6, 1924. He attended school in Avoca and graduated in 1943. He entered the Army in 1945, and served until 1964. After being discharged from the Army, he returned to the Avoca area and began working in gas stations in the surrounding areas. In the early 30's Clarence entered AA and while in the program he remained very active and counseled many of the members all around the area. In 1989, he entered Conception Abbey and after four years he was ordained Oct. 9, 1993. After four years of study and being ordained, he became a deacon at St. Mary's Catholic Church where he taught twelfth grade religious education classes. He participated and was an active member of the local Pastor's meeting that met monthly. He died Sept. 28, 2001, at Clarkson Hospital in Omaha, NE, after a long battle with diabetes at age 77 years, one month and 14 days.

His parents and his sister, Janice Christensen, preceded him in death. He is survived by other relatives.

Funeral services were held Oct. 3, 2001, at St. Mary's Catholic Church, Avoca, with Bishop Joseph Charron, Father Reischl, Father Frost, Father Polich and Deacon Stephen Rallis officiating. Burial was in the Graceland Cemetery with military graveside rites by the Avoca American Legion Post #227. Casket bearers were Pat Martin, George Wise, Doug Brown, Wayne Paulsen, Denny Piittmann and Jim Hoffmann. Knutson Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.