

Donald "Duffy" Christensen, 69

Dec. 23, 1933 - Oct. 19, 2003

ROCKLEDGE, FL – Donald Eddie "Duffy" Christensen was born to Mary (Petersen) and Edwin Christensen Dec. 23, 1933, in Harlan. Duffy attended school and graduated from Harlan High school in 1952. He attended the University of Iowa from 1953 through 1954, then joined the Army in 1954 for two years. He returned to college and graduated with a BA in business in 1958.

He married Verona Ann Hoogensen in 1955. They returned to Harlan in 1959, where he joined his father in running the family business, "EM Christensen Auto Company" for 25 years. Duffy was a member and on the Board of Trustees of the Congregational United Church of Christ. He was also very active in the Shriner's T-Patrol and the Iowa Auto Dealers Association. He refereed high school football games. He occasionally graced the local Harlan stage as Oscar Madison in "The Odd Couple" or teamed up with Dick Gilbert's "Batman" as Robin. He was widowed in 1972 and remarried Elaine Joyce Nelson in 1973, adding another daughter and grandson to the family. Duffy and Elaine moved to Florida in 1986 where they started their own business, "Auto Spa" until their retirement in 1998. Duffy died Oct. 19, 2003, in his home in Rockledge, FL, at age 69 years.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his wife, Verona. He is survived by his wife, Elaine of Rockledge, FL; his daughters, Kaye (Terry) Lauritsen of Cedar Rapids, and grandson, Dane; Kathy (Doug) Denny of Hudson, OH, and grandchildren, Alec and Anna; Karen (Mike) Cooper of Persia, and grandson, Jordan; his son, Mike Christensen of New Hope Village, Carroll; his stepdaughter, Dena Christensen of Omaha, NE, and grandson, Adam; his sister, Jean Doran of Harlan; nieces, nephews and other relatives.

A memorial service was held Oct. 27, 2003, at Pauley Jones Funeral Home with Orv Roecker officiating. Inurnment was in the Harlan Cemetery. Pauley Jones Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

