



## Melvin Dawson, 81

June 17, 1914 - April 7, 1996

**HARLAN** - Melvin Allen Dawson, son of Orville and Jennie (Fraser) Dawson was born June 17, 1914 at Bottineau, ND. He attended school in Harlan and was baptized at the Bethel Baptist Church. After high school he then attended the University of Iowa at Iowa City.

Oct. 1, 1966 he married Lois Mardis in Middletown, OH. He was employed as the general sales manager of Sorg Paper Company in Middletown, retiring from that posi-

tion in 1969. He was then employed in Harlan at the Ward's Catalog Store from 1970 to 1972 before helping to organize Concerned, Inc. in Harlan where he was the Executive Director. His work for Concerned, Inc. in the organizing years included fundraising, helping to build the building, painting and refinishing. He was dedicated to the purposes of Concerned, Inc. and especially to its clients. After his retirement in 1988, he continued to make his home in Harlan until March 5 of this year, when he became a resident of the Salem Lutheran Home. He died April 7, 1996 at Myrtue Memorial Hospital at age 81 years, nine months and 21 days.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a sister, Ellen Jane. He is survived by his wife, Lois Dawson of Harlan; his daughter, Jan Fraser of Palm Springs, CA; a son-in-law, Don Michiels of Melbourne, FL and a stepson, Don Mardis of Linwood, MA. He is also survived by three grandchildren; two step grandchildren and a sister, Kathryn Mathiasen (Virgil) of Harlan and other relatives.

Memorial services were held April 10, 1996 at Pauley Funeral Home with Rev. Roger Crawford of the Bethel Baptist Church officiating. Honorary casket bearers were Ed Swank, Franklin C. Rasmussen, Jerry Lytle, Leo Kloewer, Wing-Tai Fung, M.D., Pat Pattison, Joe Lauterbach, Richard L. Arkfeld, Maynard Nielsen, Jack R. Knudsen, Lynn Christensen and Galen Ahrenholtz.