

Merle Greer, 71 ✓

Feb. 9, 1924 - Nov. 9, 1995

Harlan - Merle Berle Greer, son of Earl and Ruby Dowling Greer, was born Feb. 9, 1924 at Wagner, SD. He and his family moved to the Manilla area in 1934 and later moved to a farm north of Harlan in 1944. He attended elementary country school in Parmalee, SD and elementary and high school in Manilla. He was baptized a Methodist and became a member of the Catholic faith upon his marriage.

He married Marjorie Schumacher Jan. 2, 1947 at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Defiance. To this union ten children were born. He was a farmer all of his life until he retired in 1986. They have continued to live on the family farm since retirement. He died at his home Nov. 9, 1995 at age seventy-one years and nine months. He was a member of St. Michael's Catholic Church in Harlan, a Farm Bureau member and a lifetime member of the V.F.W. Post No. 941 in Harlan. He served his country during World War II in Japan and received his honorable discharge Dec. 21, 1946.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a grandson, Terry McKeon, and a granddaughter, April Blum; two sisters, Elaine Greer and Velda Miller, and two brothers, Arthur and Eugene Greer. He is survived by his wife, Marjorie; his children, Sharon (Douglas) Nash of New Market, TN; Dennis (Nancy) Greer of Harlan; Kayleen (Bob) Smith of Defiance; Vicky (Mike) Blum of Harlan; Donna (Bruce) Bruck of Irwin; Peggy (Brian) Merkle of West Chicago, IL; Patty (Paul) Steenhusen of Harlan; Sandy Greer of Campbell, CA; Dale (Doug) Lonowski of Ames; Brian Greer (Shelley) Lucas of Delaware, OH; his best friend and twin brother, Verle (Irene) Greer of Harlan; his sisters, Unis Schumacher of Harlan; Inis Dickes of Shenandoah; Wilma (Eugene) Dickes of Longmont, CO; twenty-three grandchildren; four great grandchildren and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was concelebrated Nov. 13, 1995 at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Harlan with Msgr. Edward Kelly celebrant and Rev. Larry Hoffmann concelebrant. Military rites were conducted in the Harlan Cemetery by the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post #941 of Harlan. Honorary casket bearers were Doug Nash, Paul Steenhusen, Mike Blum, Bruce Bruck, Doug Lonowski, Brian Merkle and Bob Smith. Casket bearers were Tim McKeon, Ryan Pearson, Bryce Bruck, Mark Smith, Jason Blum, Keith Smith and Jared Blum. Pauley Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.