

Thomas Hansen, 89

Jan. 2, 1914 - Jan. 3, 2003

HARLAN – Thomas Edwin Hansen was born to Mary (Petersen) and Hans T. Hansen at Jackson Township, Jan. 2, 1914. He was baptized at Bethlehem Lutheran Church near Jacksonville, and attended No. 2 school two miles north of Jacksonville. Thomas entered the United States Army April 24, 1942, serving at Ft. Richardson near Anchorage, AK, and on the Aleutian Islands. He was honorably discharged Nov. 10, 1945.

Dec. 4, 1946, he married Mabel White at Bethlehem Lutheran Church near Jacksonville. To this union one child, Gloria, was born. He farmed until his retirement in 1981, when he and Mabel moved to Harlan. Following their move, Thomas continued to do carpentry work and odd jobs. He was an active member of Bethlehem Lutheran Church. He held various offices on the church council and taught Sunday School for over 25 years during which time he served as Sunday School Superintendent. Thomas was also a former member of the Men's Quartet. He died Jan. 3, 2003, at Elm Crest Retirement Community in Harlan, at age 89 years and one day.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his sister, Mabel Greve, and his brother, Russell Hansen. He is survived by his wife, Mabel Hansen of Harlan; daughter, Gloria (Larry) West of Council Bluffs; grandsons, Chad West of Council Bluffs and Jeremy West (Annika) of Minneapolis, MN; sisters, Hazel Hansen and Myrtle Klindt of Harlan; brother, Ed Hansen (Catherine) of Harlan; nieces and nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Jan. 6, 2003, at Bethlehem Lutheran Church near Jacksonville, with the Revs. Henry Flessner and Annika Lister Stoope officiating. Military rites were conducted in the Jacksonville Cemetery by Shelby County Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 941 and American Legion Helmer Reyelt Post No. 150 of Harlan. Casket bearers were John White, Vern Nelson, Jerry Klindt, Robert Klindt, Jon Hansen and Derald Kumm. Pauley Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.