

Dr. Lawrence Larsen, 92

Dec. 14, 1922 - June 1, 2015

HARLAN — Lawrence Vernon Larsen was born on December 14, 1922 to Lewis and Minna (Rasmussen) Larsen near Audubon. He was baptized and confirmed at Salem Lutheran Church in Audubon. He attended country school near Fiscus before graduating from Audubon High School. He obtained his degree from the University of Iowa and then continued on to the College of Medicine there. He did his internship at Deacons Hospital in Spokane, WA.

December 27, 1943, Lawrence was united in marriage to Jane Ellen Davis at the Salem Lutheran Church in Audubon. They became parents to three children: Barbara, David, and Robert. Lawrence joined the United States Army on April 10, 1943 while still in medical school and served during World War II as a 2nd Lieutenant. He received an honorable discharge from service on March 23, 1946, and began his career as a family physician in Harlan at the invitation of Dr. Carl Bisgard. Dr. Larsen spent thirty-five years caring for the residents of Harlan and the surrounding communities, including delivering babies wherever they decided to be born, and making numerous house calls. After his retirement, Lawrence and Jane spent more time at their lake home in Minnesota where he enjoyed having a large garden, fishing, and golfing. He also had more time to do his water color and oil paintings.

After Jane's death, Lawrence married Elizabeth "Betty" Flinders Hughes on May 3, 2008 and remained in Harlan until his death on Monday, June 1, 2015. He had attained the age of ninety-two years, five months, and eighteen days.

Lawrence was preceded in death by his parents, wife Jane, grandson Christopher Larsen; sisters-in-law Mary Conklin, and brothers-in-law: Richard Berg, Dwight Conklin, Emmert Steen, John Reftle, and Larry Patrick. He is survived by his wife Betty Hughes of Harlan; daughter Barbara and her husband James Boeck of Woodbine; sons David Larsen and his wife Jacqueline of Kalona and Bob Larsen and his wife Gwen of Irvine, CA; step-children: Jan and her husband Tom McIntosh of Loveland, CO, John Hughes and Louanne Fronning of Clitheral, MN, and Mary and her husband Bill Cherrier of Colorado Springs, CO; eleven grandchildren; seventeen great-grandchildren; sisters Neoma Steen of Elk Horn and Anna Berge of Aurelia; brothers: Dr. Arnold Larsen and his wife Dorothy of Fort Collins, CO, Rev. Peter Larsen and his wife Inetta of Des Moines, and Dr. Philip Larsen and his wife Sandy of Arden Hills, MN; sisters-in-law JoAnn Patrick of Carson and Martha and her husband John Renftle of Indianola; other family members and many friends.

Pastor Philip Nielsen officiated the 1:30 p.m. funeral service on Saturday, June 6, 2015 at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Harlan. Sharon Davidson accompanied vocalist Linda Mosher. Jason Boeck carried the urn and Matthew Larsen carried the picture of grandfather. Scripture readers were Jessica Larsen and Sarah Kos. Keely DeHaan and Jennifer Nonnenmann read the life story. Inurnment was at the Harlan Cemetery.



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