

## Urban M. Leuschen, 80

*April 27, 1919 - Feb. 16, 2000*

**HARLAN** – Urban M. Leuschen, son of Nicholas C. and Elizabeth (Thielen) Leuschen, was born at Panama, April 27, 1919. He died Feb. 16, 2000, at age 80 years, nine months and 19 days. He was baptized, received his communion and was confirmed at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Panama. He attended St. Mary's Catholic School and graduated in 1936. After graduation, he helped his father on the family farm until March of 1941, when he was drafted into the United States Army. He served with the 113th Cavalry in Texas until January 1944, when he was sent overseas. He saw action in the European Theater until May of 1945, when he was honorably discharged. He was awarded the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart having been wounded in Normandy, France.

June 2, 1943, he married Anna Mae Blum of St. Michael's Catholic Church in Harlan. Two sons were born to this union. In March of 1946, they began farming one mile west of Panama. He was a salesman for Golden Harvest Seed Corn for many years. He left the farm in 1972, and worked for Rocker Ford in Harlan. In 1982, he moved to Harlan and became a member of St. Michael's Catholic Church. While the boys were young, he coached Junior Legion baseball. He served on the Panama Town Council and the Shelby County Golf Board. He was a member of the Panama American Legion Post No. 601, VFW Post #941 of Harlan and the Disabled American Veterans.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by two sisters, Rita Leuschen and Hilda (Mrs. Leo Fahn); and one brother, Nicholas Leuschen, Jr. He is survived by his wife, Anna Mae Leuschen of Harlan; his sons, Tom Leuschen (Kathy) of Houston, TX and Nick Leuschen (Barb) of Norfolk, NE; grandchildren, Cal, Chris, Carl, Tom Jr., Anne and Sarah; sisters, Hedda Shilz of Beaumont, CA; Marie Coenen of Defiance and Helen Bieker of Defiance; brothers, John Leuschen of Panama and Don Leuschen (Bernie) of Panama; and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was concelebrated Feb. 19, 2000, at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Harlan, with Rev. Howard Fitzgerald celebrating, Rev. Cornelius Gaul concelebrating and Rev. Mr. Pat Davitt assisting. Military rites were conducted at the Harlan Cemetery with Cal Leuschen, John Helling, Carl Leuschen, Chris Leuschen, Bill Fahn and Tom Leuschen, Jr. casket bearers. Pauley Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

