Harlan, Iowa Tribune Tuesday December 17, 1991, pg 2-8



Ronald McKeown, 86

Sept. 2, 1905 - Nov. 25, 1991

HARLAN - Ronald Raymond McKeown, the son of John and Marie (Sewing) McKeown was born Sept. 2, 1905, on a farm in Pottawattamie Co. He was one of four sibblings in the family. He attended school at Co. Bluffs and Omaha, NE., graduating from Harlan High School in 1923.

Sept. 15, 1937, he married Dorothy Schmidt at Avoca. Two children were born to this union. After their marriage, they lived on a rented farm east of Harlan, known as the White Star Farm, until March of 1940, when they moved to their own farm six miles south of Harlan. In Jan. of 1954, due to his health, they moved to Harlan.

After the family moved to Harlan, he was a Korean Veteran Agriculture instructor from 1956 to 1960. When the classes were disbanded, he sold Northwestern Life Ins., until his retirement in 1968, and was a partner in the Pauley Ford Center at Harlan. After the death of his wife on Aug. 10, 1979, he continued to reside at his home in Harlan.

Oct. 16, 1982, he married Elizabeth Breeling of Hemet, CA. They have resided in Harlan since that time. He died Nov. 25, 1991 at Myrtue Memorial Hospital in Harlan, at age 86 years, two months and 23 days.

He was an active member of First United Methodist Church in Harlan, and had served as a member of the board of directors for many years of the Harlan National Bank; Chapter chairman of the Shelby County Red Cross; member of the Abu-Bekr Temple Shrine of Sioux City, and Past Master of the Parian Lodge, NO. 321 A.F. & A.M. of Harlan

In addition to his parents and his first wife, Dorothy, he was preceded in death by three sisters, Alice Bittle, Lucille Best and Eileen Thoreen. Surviving him is his wife Elizabeth of Harlan; a daughter, Ann Louise (Frank) Burgeson, M.D. of Emporia, KS.; a son, John McKeown, M.D. (Stella) of Ottumwa; four grandchildren; nieces and nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Nov. 27, 1991, at First United Methodist Church in Harlan with Rev. D. Stephen Clinton, officiating. Burial was in the Harlan cemetery with Leo Mores, Keith More, Cliff Hanson, Dick O'Bryan David E. Koos, and Robert M. Steckelberg serving as casketbearers. Pauley Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.