

## Robert C. Mitchell, 78

Jan. 21, 1920 - Sept. 11, 1998

**HARLAN** - Robert C. Mitchell was born Jan. 21, 1920, at the Christian Home in Co. Bluffs. He was adopted by Alex and Myrtle (Smith) Mitchell as a two week old infant Feb. 4, 1920. He attended country school and grew to adulthood on the family farm in the Defiance area.

May 23, 1943, he married Wilma Rank at Defiance. They became the parents of three daughters and one son. After their marriage, they lived on the family farm. In March of 1945, he entered the U.S. Army and served as an M.P. at a P.O.W. camp. After two years in the military, Robert returned to farming. After 45 years of farming, Robert and Wilma retired and moved to Harlan. In the summer of 1998 he was presented with his 50 Year Pin as a member of the Defiance American Legion Post No. 707. He died at his home Sept. 11, 1998, after a hard struggle for life at age 78 years, seven months and 21 days.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his granddaughter, Wendy Sue Mitchell; his daughter-in-law, Janet Mitchell, and various aunts and uncles. He is survived by his wife of 56 years, Wilma Mitchell of Harlan; three daughters, Rose (Robert) Wessels of Raynham, MA; Roberta (Matt) Hickman of Humble, TX; Linda (Duane) Musich of Harlan; one son, Rob Mitchell of Co. Bluffs; ten grandchildren and four great grandchildren; sister-in-law, Maxine Brandes, and brother-in-law, Wayne Brandes, and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Sept. 14, 1998, at Pauley Funeral Home with Rev. Paul Wilcox of the First United Methodist Church in Harlan officiating. Military rites were conducted at Rose Hill Cemetery in Kirkman by the Defiance American Legion - Post No. 707. Honorary casket bearers were Bill Janke, Scott Wessels, John Wells, Leonard Bissen, Bill Bissen and Roger Heiman. Casket bearers were Tina Freund, Nicki Mitchell, Tricia Elms, Rob Mitchell, Timothy Wessels, Bob Mitchell, Joey Hickman and Tanya Powell.