

Harlan, Iowa, News Advertiser, Friday, September 7, 2001,

Victor Brondt Nelsen, 71

Feb. 22, 1930 – Aug. 19, 2001

OMAHA, NE – Victor Brondt Nelsen or "Victor B" was born Feb. 22, 1930, in Harlan, to Chris and Elise Nelsen. He was the middle of three sons born to Danish immigrants who had come to America in 1911. As a young man, he grew up on a dairy farm in Harlan, and each morning before school started his day with his brothers milking cows and delivering milk. He completed high school in Harlan, and moved to Chicago to study architecture at the Chicago Technical College, graduating in 1949. In 1951 – 1953 Vic served his country in the U.S. Army during the Korean War, stationed in Trieste, Italy.

Jan. 16, 1955, Vic married Phyllis June, daughter of Elmer and Margaret Larsen or "Sparky and Muggs" also from Harlan. Together they moved to Omaha to pursue his career and raised three sons, Kirk, Brad and Bruce. Vic continued his practice of architecture, and in 1959, with only one year of formal training, became a licensed architect in the state of Nebraska. In 1960, he joined Stan How in his new architectural practice. Stan, who grew to become one of Vic's close friends, invited him to be a partner in the firm – a relationship that would last 30 years before Vic retired in 1990. Over the years, they created many landmarks throughout Omaha. Beginning in the early 1960's Victor and Phyllis began to spend their summers at Lake Okoboji, and ventured off to the desert of Arizona in the winter. He coached the boys in Little League. Vic and Phyllis were together for over 46 years in Omaha. Okoboji and Mesa, AZ are still their vacation homes. At the age of 55 he suffered the first of many strokes. In 1985, the first of his eight grandchildren was born. In 1990 Vic retired from How-Nelsen & Associates, and in the same year, helped Brad start his own business. In 2001, he saw Kirk begin his new career, and only two days before his death, he helped Bruce in achieving his dream of moving back to Omaha to begin his own business. He died Aug. 19, 2001.

His mother, father and younger brother, Russell, preceded him in death. Surviving him is his wife, Phyllis; their three sons, Kirk (Maggie); Brad (Amanda) and Bruce (Debbie); eight grandchildren, Jamie, Dan, Austin, Carson, Hailey, Tyler, Caroline and Katherine; his older brother, Newmark; father-in-law, Sparky Larsen; brother-in-law, Dwayne Larsen (Jackie); nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Aug. 23, 2001, at the Lutheran Church of the Master in Omaha. Burial was in Forest Lawn Memorial Park, Omaha, with Russ Nelsen, Todd Larsen, John McGill, Bill Grant, Paul Schenck and Ken Kampfe casket bearers and Jim Schenck, Merle Timperley, Burl Place, Duane Reaney, Morrie Northup and Claude Timmins honorary casket bearers.