

Eugene "Dane" Matthew Peterson, 73

Oct. 4, 1920 - Nov. 5, 1993

Harlan-- Eugene "Dane" Matthew Peterson, son of Andrew and Anna Catherine (Fuhs) Peterson, was born Oct. 4, 1920 on a farm near Portsmouth in Shelby County. He died Nov. 5, 1993 at Myrtue Memorial Hospital in Harlan at age 73 years, one month and one day. He was baptized at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Portsmouth. He attended St. Mary's Catholic Schools graduating in 1938. He attended Iowa State University at Ames, and Tulane University in New Orleans, LA. He played baseball at both schools and later played Minor League Baseball in the Cubs Organization. He enlisted in the United States Navy in Aug., 1942 and served his country at sea in World War II.

He moved back to Harlan after completing his military service and married Bonnie Herkenrath June 23, 1945 at St. Mary's Catholic church in Portsmouth. Of this marriage, five children were born; three daughters and two sons. They lived in Harlan until 1949 and then he became employed by Skelly Oil Company at Sioux Rapids and St. Louis, MO. He returned to Harlan in 1960 and went into business for himself operating Peterson Gas Company. He later opened The 59'er Restaurant in 1979 and The 59'er Motel in 1992. He was a long time member of St. Michael's Catholic Church in Harlan.

He was preceded in death by his parents, a sister, Pauline Jennifer Maiwald and a brother, Urban Peterson. Survivors include his wife, Bonnie; his children, Janelle (Stephen) Gillespie of Omaha, NE; Vance Peterson of Milton; Laurel (Doug) DeWees of Lansing, MI; Jay (Lana) Peterson of Harlan; and Aimee (Mike) Henscheid of Oshkosh, WI; six grandchildren; a sister, Helen Anderson of Omaha, NE; a brother Bernard (Joan) Peterson of Ormond Beach, FL, nieces and nephews and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Nov. 8, 1993 at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Harlan with Msgr. Edward Kelly celebrant. Military rites were conducted at the Harlan cemetery by the Shelby County V.F.W., Post #941 of Harlan. Casket bearers were Mick Maiwald, Marion Maiwald, Marv Maiwald, Gary Anderson, Aaron DeWees and Phil Herkenrath, Jr. Pauley Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.