



Ray Pleak, 51

May 27, 1945 - Sept. 9, 1996

HARLAN - Ray Evan Pleak, son of Charles and Maurine (Latimer) Pleak, was born May 27, 1945, at Red Oak. He was baptized and confirmed at First Christian Church there, and graduated from Red Oak High School. He then attended Iowa State University, graduating with degrees in Animal Science and Doctor of Veterinary Medicine in 1970.

June 20, 1970, he married Shari Muller at Defiance. They became the parents of three children. After their marriage, he was employed in small animal veterinary practice in Des Moines from 1970 to 1972 and then practiced in two different large animal veterinary practices in Harlan from 1972 to 1992. He has remained active in many community activities since that time. He was a member of First Christian Church as a child and was a 20 year member of the United Methodist Church in Defiance. He presently attended First Baptist Church in Harlan. He was a board member and president of Southwest I.V.M.A. and a member of Public Relations and Sheep Committee of Iowa V.M.A. He was also a member of the Dean's Advisory Committee to the College of Veterinary Medicine, Iowa State University, a member of the Shelby County Board of Health, and treasurer and trustee of the Defiance United Methodist Church. He coached little league, was a 4-H club leader and was a board member and president of the Harlan Community School District from 1991 to 1995. Ray died at his home in Harlan Sept. 9, 1996, at age 51 years, three months and 13 days.

In addition to his father, he was preceded in death by a brother, Lyle Pleak. Survivors include his wife, Shari Pleak, and his children, Erin, Courtney and Ryan Pleak all of Harlan; his mother, Maurine Pleak of Red Oak, and a brother, Leland (Fran) Pleak also of Red Oak and other relatives.

Memorial services were held Sept. 10, 1996 at the First Baptist Church in Harlan, with Pastor Jeff Nelsen and Rev. John E. Hester officiating. Inurnment was in the Harlan Cemetery. Pauley Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.