

## **Merlin M. Stanley, 81**

**May 12, 1913 - Oct. 20, 1994**

**Audubon** - Merlin M. Stanley, son of James Ralph and Roxie Dell May Stanley, was born May 12, 1913 near Audubon, Iowa and died Oct. 20, 1994 at the University Hospital and Clinics in Iowa City, Iowa at age 81 years, 5 months, and 8 days. He attended the Iowa State School for the Deaf, in Co. Bluffs where he studied barbering, carpentry, and shoe repair. During his school years he participated in football, and was a golden gloves boxer. He then helped his father building furniture.

In 1946 he married Esther Kroger in MO. Six children were born to this union. He worked at the Buick garage in Audubon for many years. He then worked as a handy man for other people, and made furniture. He resided in Hamlin for many years, then moved to Audubon in 1989. He was a resident of the Friendship Home in Audubon for a short time, and has been a resident of a care facility in Clarinda for the past several months.

Preceding him in death was a grandson, Shane Stanley; his parents; his brothers: Wyman Stanley, Dolliver Stanley and Wayne Stanley. Survivors include his children: Kathryn Fink; Jim (Linda) Stanley; Don (Pam) Stanley; Deborah (Ray) Gardner, all of Harlan; Shari Stanley of Inver Grove Hts., MN; and Mitchell (Susan) Stanley of Mansfield, MA; his stepsons and their wives: David (Elaine) Stanley of Mt. Plymouth, FL; Allan (Lanette) Stanley of Inver Grove Hts., MN; 20 grandchildren; 3 great-grandchildren; his sisters: Evelyn Stanley of Berkley, CA; and Arlene Garnett of Chino, CA; many nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were conducted by Dr. Jerry Binns, Oct. 24, 1994 at Kessler Funeral Home in Audubon. Burial was in the Arlington Heights cemetery in Audubon. Casket bearers were: David Fink, Dale Fink, Brad Fink, Troy Fink, Tom Stanley, Shawn Stanley, and Deric Gardner. Kessler Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.