

Jack "JW" W. Sorensen, 79

Dec. 27, 1919 – July 19, 1999

HARLAN – Jack Wendell Sorensen, son of Paul and Nina (Leytham) Sorensen, was born Dec. 27, 1919, in Shelby County. He was baptized at the First United Methodist Church in Harlan. He attended school at Center Township No. 6 and was a member of the graduating class of 1936 from the Harlan Community High School in Harlan. He then attended Boyle's Business School in Co. Bluffs.

He married Ruth Ellen Rhodes Aug. 18, 1940, at the First United Methodist Church in Harlan. Four children were born to this union, Rosalie, Patricia, Jack and Robert. After their marriage, he was employed various places in southwest Iowa and eastern Nebraska before becoming employed by John Day Company in Omaha for 27 years, retiring in December of 1981. He died July 19, 1999, at Myrtue Memorial Hospital at age 79 years, six months and 23 days.

He was preceded in death by his parents and two brothers-in-law, Walter Victor Rhodes and Lawrence H. Kemp. Survivors include his wife, Ruth of Harlan; his children, Rosalie (Bert) Outka of Enning, SD; Patricia (William) Bloedel of Co. Bluffs; Ltc-Ret. Jack Sorensen (Nancy) of Marshalltown; Rev. Robert Sorensen (Joylene) of Sealy, TX; 11 grandchildren; eight great grandchildren; his sisters, Elsie Kemp of Arkansas, WI; Mary Ann (Jack) Pedersen of Co. Bluffs; nieces and nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held July 23, 1999, at the First United Methodist Church in Harlan, with Rev. Paul Wilcox officiating. Burial was in the Harlan Cemetery with Art Andersen, Leland Sunderland, Delmar Patton, Quinten Rickers, Milo Johnson, Fred Jacobsen and Deane Blakely honorary casket bearers. Casket bearers were Jim Bieker, Kirk A. Jacobsen, Ray Hoifeldt, Merlin Kastens, Verner Arnvig, Larry G. Miller and Jim Burns. Pauley Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.