



James Youmans, Jr., 86

July 27, 1925 - May 9, 2012

PERSIA — James Harland Youmans, Jr. was born on July 27, 1925 to James and Grace (Thurston) Youmans in Bangor, ME. He started school in Brewer, ME, and graduated from Falmouth High School in Falmouth, ME, with the Class of 1943. He received his Bachelor's degree from Dana College in Blair, NE, in 1950. James enlisted in the United States Marine Corps on October 5, 1943, signing up for one year. He received his honorable discharge over three years later on June 6, 1946.



James was united in marriage to Arlene Rudolph on August 28, 1949 at Bluffs Trinity Lutheran Church in Fremont, NE. Three children were born to this union: Alan, Dale, and LuAnne. James worked as a carpenter doing construction work for several years and also taught at Tri-Center Community Schools in Neola. He held the office of Mayor of Persia for sixteen years. He was a member of SWIPCO, the Persia American Legion Post No. 314 serving as the State Commander for the years 1980 and 1981, and the Shelby County VFW Post No. 941. James had lived at Elm Crest Retirement Home in Harlan for a short time before moving to the Salem Lutheran Home in Elk Horn, where he died on Wednesday, May 9, 2012, having attained the age of eighty-six years, nine months, and twelve days.

James was preceded in death by his parents and his brother Leslie. He is survived by his wife of sixty-two years Arlene Youmans of Bennington, NE; sons Alan Youmans and his wife Julene of Freeport, IL and Dale Youmans and his wife Yvonne of Las Vegas, NV; daughter LuAnne and her husband Michael Patak of Bennington, NE; two granddaughters: Allison Lathrop of Mission, KS and Erica Lathrop of Dallas, TX; five step-grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; sister Eleanor Drinkwater of Florida, brother Richard Youmans of New Britain, CT, other family members and friends.

Rev. Duane Anunson officiated the 11:00 a.m. funeral service on Saturday, May 12, 2012 at St. John's Lutheran Church in Persia. Honorary casket bearers were Wayne Ruff, Bruce Rudd, Steven Samson, Michael Patak. A private interment was held on Monday, May 14, 2012 at Valley View Cemetery in Persia.

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