

# Francis Plumb, 63

**Kirkman** — Francis Benton Plumb, son of Alfred and Eda Inez Custer Plumb, was born on a farm in Lincoln, Twp., Shelby county, on March 23, 1917. He was baptized in the Methodist church. After his father died, the Plumb family moved to Harlan in 1932. Francis graduated from the Harlan high school with the class of 1935; previously he had attended school in Tenant. During and after high school, Francis worked on some of the area farms.

On Nov. 24, 1937, he married Gretchen Parker in Rockport, Mo. 12 children were born to this union. They farmed in the Tenant area until they moved to Calif. There Mr Plumb worked in the Lockheed Aircraft Plant. He enlisted June 5, 1944, in the Army, serving as a heavy machine gunner in the Combat Infantry in France and Germany. His decorations included two bronze battle stars. After his discharge in 1946, they moved back to Shelby county where he did construction work. In 1957, Francis started his drainage and tile business that he was involved with until the time of his death. He was a member of V.F.W. Post No. 941, of Harlan. He died while working at Rt. 1, Kirkman, on Monday, June 30, 1980, at age 63 years, 3 months and seven days.

In addition to his parents, Francis was preceded in death by one daughter, Patty Sue. Survivors include his wife, Gretchen, of Kirkman; five daughters - Jan (Mrs Jack) Buthman of Denver, Judy (Mrs Jan) Mauck of Mulvane, Kans., Phyllis Plumb, Susan Plumb, both of Kirkman, and Lori (Mrs Jim) Baughman of Wahiawa, Hawaii; six sons - Benton Plumb, Alfred Plumb, Steve Plumb and Paul Plumb; all of Kirkman and Phillip Plumb of Shawnee, Okla., and 13 grandchildren; by five sisters - Lotus (Mrs Grant) Poole of Mountain Home, Ark.; Veta (Mrs Harold) Havick of Harlan; Iva (Mrs Merrill) Smith of Marion; Myrtle (Mrs Jim) Hindle of Lakeworth, Fla., and Shirley (Mrs Ed) Morris of Juno Beach, Fla.; one brother, Max Plumb of Harlan and other relatives.

Funeral services were held at Pauley Funeral Home in Harlan, on Thursday, July 3, 1980, with Jan Mauck and Tom Gaer, officiating. Burial was in the Harlan cemetery, with Max Thygesen, Fred Holloway, Junior Bartelson, Donald D. Andersen, Marlin L. Petersen, and Jack F. Christensen serving as casketbearers.

Military rites were conducted at the cemetery by V.F.W. Post No. 941, of Harlan.