

Jack Christensen, 68

Aug. 31, 1934 - March 20, 2003

HARLAN – Jack Floyd Christensen, son of Lehman "Lee" and Edith Kathryn (Rold) Christensen, was born Aug. 31, 1934, at home in Harlan. He grew up in Harlan and attended Laurel Elementary School and was a member of the graduating class of 1952 from the Harlan Community High School. At an early age, he helped his father scoop and deliver coal and sand. He worked as a student janitor for the Harlan Schools from seventh grade until he graduated. He played football, basketball and participated in track. Jack's parents moved to Oregon his junior year; Jack stayed with Glenn and Rosalie French during his junior and senior year and worked for Glenn in the summer while attending high school. Following graduation, he was employed by Emil Nelson and Vern Peck and he worked on cars. While working for Harold Andersen, Jack became very ill and serious surgeries followed. He then started working at Howard Plastics running a printing press printing plastic food saver bags.



Jack married Carol Havick July 6, 1957, at the United Methodist Church in Harlan. Four children were born to this union. After their marriage, they lived in Carson for one year. They began farming in 1959 on a farm northwest of Tennant. In 1963, they moved to a farm north of Corley and farmed there for 11 years. They farmed the Allen farm for three years and Carol's parent's farm for 20 years. Jack also worked as a manager and salesman for the Alloway/Westgo branch in sales of short-line machinery in Harlan and as a salesman for John Deere in the Avoca and Woodbine area. In 1997, he and Carol purchased and moved to a home in Harlan. Following his retirement in 1998, he began working part-time at Pauley Funeral Home. Jack died March 20, 2003, at his home in Harlan, at age 68 years, six months and 20 days.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a son, Kent; a brother, Donald; and a brother-in-law, Leland Hansen. Survivors include his wife, Carol Christensen of Harlan; his children, Ann (Dave) Pickrel of Hickman, NE; Jay Christensen (Suzy) of Harlan; Jill Christensen and her friend, Harry Garcia of Queens, NY; seven grandchildren, Nicholas, Adam, Rees, Sadie, Cass, Rachel and Jacob; two step grandchildren, Angie (Travis) Freund; Cory Pickrel (Sara); four step great grandchildren, C.J. and Rhiannon Pickrel and Skylar King and Brooklyn Freund; his brother and sisters, Joanne (Norman) Mathiasen of Harlan; Barbara Hansen of Oakland; Jim Christensen (Carol) of Loveland, CO; sister-in-law, Fran Christensen of Council Bluffs; nieces and nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held March 24, 2003, at Pauley Jones Funeral Home with Rev. Ed Frank officiating. Burial was in the Harlan Cemetery with Jack's grandchildren, Rees Christensen, Nicholas Christensen, Adam Christensen, Sadie Christensen, Rachel Pickrel, Cass Christensen, Cory Pickrel, Jacob Pickrel and Angie Freund honorary casket bearers. Casket bearers were Mark Lytle, Richard Brockman, Duane Magee, Glenn French, Mitch Osborn, Gaike Lytle, Michael Jones, Jerry Larson and Richard Jones.