

Virgil Hodapp, 83

Dec. 23, 1918 – April 1, 2002

HARLAN – Virgil George Hodapp, son of Frank and Mamie (Rosman) Hodapp, was born Dec. 23, 1918, in Portsmouth. He was raised on the family farm and attended Westphalia country school. After finishing eighth grade, he helped on the farm. He served his country in World War II, attaining the rank of Corporal. He was a 26 month POW in Germany, and was liberated by the USSR.

Jan. 23, 1946, Virgil married Lola Gingles in Onawa. He worked at the Chevy Garage in Harlan, and later as a mechanic and shop foreman at Boeck Implement, also in Harlan. He continued this career for more than 20 years, until his retirement in 1982. Lola died Dec. 27, 1989. Virgil then married Stella Rose Bissen Nov. 16, 1990, at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Harlan. He was a member of St. Michael's Catholic Church and had been a Shelby County VFW member for many years. He died April 1, 2002, at Myrtle Memorial Hospital at age 83 years, three months and nine days.

Preceding him in death were his parents; his first wife, Lola; one son, Neil Hodapp; one infant daughter, Vionna Hodapp; four brothers, Joe Hodapp, Walt Hodapp, Merlin Hodapp and Eugene Hodapp; and three sisters, Stella Graeve, Alma Heller and Anita Zimmerman. Survivors include his second wife, Stella Hodapp of Harlan; three daughters, Linda (Rolie) Christensen of Sacramento, CA; Vickie (Gary) Michaelsen of Walnut and Cindy Sierzant of Des Moines; seven sons, Keith (Dinah) Hodapp of Solon; Wayne (Jeanie) Hodapp of Denver, CO; Joe (Mary) Hodapp of Allman; Richard (Jane) Hodapp of Matthews, NC and Stacey (Kate) Hodapp, Randy (Cindy) Hodapp and Dave (Jud) Hodapp, all of Denver, CO; eight stepchildren; 22 grandchildren; 21 step-grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; six step-great-grandchildren and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held April 4, 2002, at St. Michael's Rosman Parish Center with Father Jack McClure, C.P.P.S. celebrating. Casket bearers were Matt Hodapp, Sam Hodapp, Jamie Michaelsen, Cory Hodapp, Travis Hodapp and Paul Hodapp. Burial was in the Harlan Cemetery with military rites provided by the Shelby County VFW Post #941 and the Helmer Reyelt AL Post #150. The Burmeister-Johannsen Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.