

**Keith More, 96**

April 11, 1912 - Jan. 30, 2009

**HARLAN** — Omar Keith More, son of John O. and Lucy (Morrison) More, was born on April 11, 1912, in Unionville. He graduated from Centerville High School in Centerville, and continued his education at Drake University and the American University in Washington, DC where he studied law.

June 11, 1937, Keith was united in marriage to Marie Virginia Pleasants in Alexandria, VA. Three daughters were born to this union: Margaret, Jean, and Elizabeth. After their wedding, Keith and Marie moved to Harlan, where Keith began practicing law with his brother, Jake. On April 15, 1944, Keith enlisted with the United States Army at Camp Dodge. He served as a clerk typist and was qualified as a rifle marksman. He was honorably discharged on January 1, 1946, at Fort Leavenworth, KS, having attained the rank of Sergeant. He was also honored with the Good Conduct Medal. Keith was an active member of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Harlan and held numerous office positions. He was also active with the Shelby County VFW Post No. 941 and the Harlan American Legion Helmer Reyelt Post No. 150 in Harlan. Keith held numerous office positions throughout his life including: past master of Parian Lodge; Director of Rural Water Association; past president for Kiwanis; past president for the Shelby County Chamber of Commerce; and president of Iowa Cannery Association. Keith was also named Citizen of the Years in 1974 and 2004 and American Red Cross Hero of the Heartland in 2006. He was very active in the community and schools where he helped establish the Alateen Program. When Keith wasn't working or volunteering, he enjoyed spending time working on his model trains and being with his friends and family. Keith also had a fondness for hot air balloons. Keith died on Friday, January 30, 2009, at Little Flower Haven in Earling, having attained the age of ninety-six years, nine months and nineteen days.

Keith is preceded in death by his parents; his wife Marie; his grandson David Lynn Gilliland; and his siblings: Mabel Smith, Jake More, Ruth Heilkamp, and Mattie Johnson. He is survived by his daughters: Margaret Gilliland and Jean Ranum both of Houston, TX; and Elizabeth and her husband Dale Larsen of Harlan; eight grandchildren: Duane Gilliland, Pam Kendrick, Debbie Waguespack, Jeff Ranum, Sandra May, Cindy Fazzone, Michael Ranum, and Maria Larsen; six great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild; six step great-grandchildren; one step great-great-grandchild; nieces; nephews; other family members and many friends.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, February 3, 2009, at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Harlan. Rev. Glen Rankin officiated the 10:30 AM service. Inurnment was held at the Harlan Cemetery.



*Pauley  
Jones*

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(712) 755-3135 • (800) 831-6805  
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