

Lester L. Peters, 76

Nov. 28, 1920 - Oct. 20, 1997

HARLAN - Lester Louis Peters, son of Henry P.F. and Celia (Bauer) Peters, was born Nov. 28, 1920, in Arcadia. He spent most of his childhood in Westside, and attended the Westside School, graduating in 1937. During his school years, he participated in sports. He attended one year of college in Berkeley, CA. He entered the U.S. Army Oct. 3, 1939, and was discharged Jan. 11, 1946, having attained the rank of First Lieutenant. After 21 years in the Air Force Reserves, he was made Lieutenant Colonel.

Jan. 14, 1947, he married Georgene (Benton) Berman of Westside. To this union two sons, Greg and Kurt, were born. In 1947, they moved to Harlan, and operated Case Machinery and Auto. He later worked as District Representative for Lutheran Brotherhood Insurance Company. He was also involved in community activities, serving as secretary and treasurer for the Shelby County Golf Course, and as a Salem Lutheran Home Board member. Church was important to Les, and he spent many years teaching and serving as head of Confirmation classes. He was an active member of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Harlan, and had served in many positions within the congregation. He died Oct. 20, 1997, at Myrtue Memorial Hospital at age 76 years, 10 months and 22 days.

Preceding him in death were his parents and one brother, Raymond Peters. Survivors include his wife of 50 years, Georgene E. Peters; two sons, Kurt Peters of Harlan, and Greg (Julie) Peters of Dallas, TX; three grandchildren, Amber, Royal Jai and Chase Peters of Dallas, TX; two brothers, Vernon (Viola) Peters of Wall Lake and Dr. Ronald (Jan) Peters of Ames; two sisters, Betty (Don) Nobling of Westside and Arlene Noack of Brownsville, TX; one sister-in-law, Nadine Nicholas of Lake View, and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Oct. 24, 1997, at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Harlan, with Pastor Jon Benson officiating. Honorary casket bearers were Arnold Knudtson, Charles Andersen, Clifford Pedersen, Wendell Woods, Victor Hoogensen, Richard Doran, Joseph Wehr and Charlie Gearhart. Casket bearers were David Benton, Kim Peters, Denny Peters, Doug Peters, Dillman Benton and Tim Kraus. Burial was in Westside Cemetery in Westside. Burmeister Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

