

Clifford Theodore Williams, 67

March 2, 1931 - Aug. 12, 1998 ✓

HARLAN - Clifford T. Williams, 67, of Harlan and formerly from Lewis, died Aug. 12, 1998, at VA Medical Center in Omaha, NE. He was the son of Merriam Clifford and Marie Sylvia Richard Williams and was born March 2, 1931, in Superior, WI. He served in the U.S. Army for five years from April 2, 1948 to May 19, 1953, and in the U.S. Air Force for 15 years from Feb. 9, 1954 to March 1, 1969. He lived in Wisconsin, Germany, Iowa, Hawaii, Japan, Michigan, and Nebraska.

He married Gwendolyn Gladys Griffin in Feb. 1955. She died in 1972. He married Mickey Ann Nelson Semrau Feb. 16, 1975, in Avoca. Following his military duties, he was an inspector for the Iowa Department of Transportation and a security guard for various companies. He was a member of the Harry Albertsen Amvets Post #51 in Kimballton, Shelby County VFW Post #941 in Harlan, Helmer Reyeit American Legion Post #150, Air Force Sergeants Association, Chapter #984 at Offutt A.F.B., Nebraska; DAV Chapter #2 in Omaha, NE and BPO Elks Lodge #445 in Atlantic. He was a regular volunteer at the Omaha VA Medical Center, working in the Pharmacy Department.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his first wife, Gwendolyn; two sons, Lannice and Daniel Williams; two daughters, Sabrina and Cathryn Williams; two grandchildren, Joshua and Chastity Williams; a great grandson, Matthew Nelson; a half brother, Harry Yoeckel; and two half sisters, Marie (Yoeckel) Cotilier and Bernadette (Williams) Powloski; paternal grandparents, Frank and Ethel (Sanger) Williams; maternal grandparents, Alex and Mary (Lyons) Richard; and an aunt, Hazel McGrath, who had raised him. He is survived by his wife, Mickey Williams of Harlan; five daughters, Jura Myers of Sioux City; Kelly Williams of Atlantic; Michelle Semrau; Patricia Petty and Christie Semrau, all of Omaha, NE; a son, Greg Semrau of Minnesota; 12 grandchildren, Lana Moser, Joel Williams, Rachel Williams, Tina Norgart, Nicole Norgart, Johnny Myers, Justin Williams, Shawn Watkins, Melissa Nelson, Nicole Semrau, Joshua Semrau and Dalton Petty; six great grandchildren; two half sisters, May Brown of Coulee City, WA and Delores Adams of Seattle, WA; a brother-in-law, Thomas McMullen of Lewis and three sisters-in-law, Shirley Riepe of Red Oak, Delores Yoeckel of Milwaukee, WI and Mary Glihsman of San Diego, CA.

Funeral services were held Aug. 15, 1998, at the Roland Funeral Home in Atlantic, with the Rev. Roger Crawford of the Bethel Baptist Church in Harlan, officiating. Burial was in the Oakwood Cemetery at Lewis. Military rites by the Harry Albertsen, Amvets Post #51 in Kimballton; Shelby County VFW Post #941 in Harlan and Helmer Reyeit American Legion Post #150, were held at the graveside. Honorary casket bearers were Justin Williams, Martin Grandquist, Mel Petty, Thomas McMullen, Norman Fuller and Joshua Semrau. Casket bearers were Amvets, Steve Hueton and Harold Nissen; VFW, Roger Schwieso and Anker Rasmussen and American Legion, Eddie Roos and Donald Norgaard.