

614-R 11-27-12-1-2014

Harlan David Baustian



Harlan David Baustian, 89, of North Platte, Neb. and formerly of Grinnell, died Thursday, Nov. 27, 2014, at Centennial Park Retirement Village.

A funeral service was held Monday, Dec. 1, at Messiah Lutheran Church with Pastor Tim Eighmy officiating. Burial with military honors followed in Fort McPherson National Cemetery. Condolences may be shared at odeanchapel.com. Memorials are suggested to Messiah Lutheran Church. Odean Colonial Chapel at C & Sycamore is in charge of arrangements.

Harlan was born May 5, 1925, to Lester and Mary Schwartz Baustian at Grinnell. Home was the family farm three miles east of Grinnell on Hwy. 6. Harlan attended a one-room rural school close to Grinnell. He finished eight years of school in seven, skipping seventh grade, then graduated from Grinnell High School in 1942.

Harlan's brother, Gerald, served in the U.S. Air Force, thus leaving Harlan to help his folks with the farm work. In 1950 the Korean War took Harlan to serve two years in the U.S. Army, 18 months of which he was stationed in Seoul, Korea. Following his discharge, Harlan returned to Iowa and continued farming.

In 1947 Harlan met Arlet Corrine Skaar and they were married on Dec. 31, 1952, at Primghar. Harlan continued farming until he enrolled at Drake University in Des Moines in 1955, and while Harlan was in school, Arlet returned to teaching to help carry the financial load. Harlan graduated with a BS in business administration in June 1958. His first job was in Minneapolis, Minn., with Munsingwear Inc., he then went to work for the Heath Candy Company.

Harlan and Arlet wished to start a family and applied for adoption with Lutheran Family Services. They adopted David in 1959, Paul in 1960, and Melia in 1962.

The family later moved to Robinson, Ill., then to Lincoln, Neb., where Harlan worked for The House of Bauer, a chocolate company. They purchased the Coast to Coast Store in Aurora, Neb., in 1974 and sold it in 1977 before buying Coast to Coast in North Platte which they operated until 1987. Harlan then worked some part-time jobs before going to work at Wal-Mart. This part-time job became full-time and he was there nearly 18 years before finally retiring.

Harlan was a member of Messiah Lutheran Church, P.R. Halligan Post #163 American Legion and a life member of B.P.O. Elks #985.

Survivors include his daughter Melia Baustian of North Platte, Neb.; sons David Baustian of Omaha, Neb. and

Paul Baustian of Norfolk, Neb.; four grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; special friends, Judy Rossetter, Buzz Goedert and Sherry Rhombach; and many other friends and relations.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife of nearly 57 years Arlet, in 2009; his brother Gerald Baustian; and one granddaughter.