PETERSEN, Russell

July 10, 1912
Irene
January 7, 2006
Yankton

Viborg Enterprise
February 2, 2006

Russell Petersen

Russell Petersen, son of Peter T. and Amelia (Christensen) Petersen was born July 10, 1912 in Irene, SD and died Saturday, January 7, 2006 at Avera Sister James Care Center in Yankton at the age of 93.

The family moved to Viborg, South Dakota where he attended grade school and high school. He enlisted in the United States Army shorly after the bombing of Pearl Harbor and was a veteran of World War II. He took basic training with the 84th Division and was later transferred to the 10th Army Headquarters. He served almost four years in the army with the last two on the island of Okinawa. On November 25, 1951, he married Marjorie Nichols in Yankton, South Dakota. To this marriage were born a daughter, Sharon and sons, Douglas and Richard. Russell was employed at the Yankton Rexall Drug Store for 23 years until his retirement in 1974.

Russell was a member of the First United Methodist Church, lifetime member of the VFW Post No. 791 and also acted as Commander from 1960-1961. He also was a member of the Past Post Commanders Club serving as President from 1983 to 1984, the St. John's Lodge No. 1 AD & AM, Oriental Consistory, Elks Lodge No. 994 and the El Riad Shrine.

Survivors include his wife, Marge Petersen of Yankton; one daughter, Sharon (Earl "Chip") Wood of San Diego, California; one son, Richard Petersen of Yankton; and grandchildren, Ryan and Ashley.

He was preceded in death by his parents; one son, Douglas Petersen; four sisters, Edna Petersen, Lillie Lauridsen, Melinda Bjornstad and Jessie Jacobsen; and four brothers, Andrew, Harry, Alfred and Johnny Petersen.

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