KLEINSASSER, David Melvin

March 9, 1924
Freeman, South Dakota
died: late January of 1969
near Rapid City, South Dakota

Viborg Enterprise - January 30, 1969

Relative of Residents Here Killed In Accident

David Melvin Kleinsasser, 44, of 3023 Oak, Rapid City, S. Dak., became Pennington County's first traffic fatality when he lost control of his car in icy conditions on Highway 79 a mile and half south of Rapid City. (His wife, the former Ramona Christensen, is the daughter of the late Paul and Elizabeth Christensen, and Mrs. Kleinsasser has several relatives living in Viborg).

The accident took place on the divided portion of the highway. Investigating offcers said Kleinsasser lost control when he entered the passing lane which the officers said was very icy. Kleinsasser was heading north. After losing control, the car careened over the borrow pit, across a gravel service road, struck an approach to an eastbound county road and then rolled over in a pasture. The victim was thrown a short distance from the car.

Kleinsasser's wife, who was following her husband in a pickup, was one of the first persons at the scene. A passing nurse tried to revive Kleinsasser.

David M. Kleinsasser was born March 9, 1924, at Freeman, S. D., and lived in the Freeman area until 1947 when he married Ramona Christensen at Sioux Falls.

They lived in Menno for 11 years and moved to Rapid City ten years ago.

Survivors include his widow; a son, David Jr., in the U. S. Navy at San Diego, Calif.; three brothers, Emil and John, both of Sioux Falls; Jake of Grand Forks, N. D.; and three sisters, Mrs. Marie Ibis, Sarah Kleinsasser and Dorothy Kleinsasser, all of Sioux Falls.