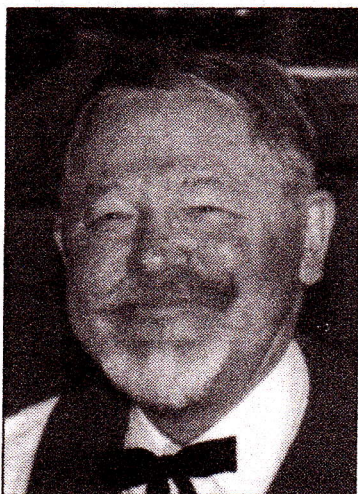


OSTROOT, Norman "Butch"

August 16, 1922
Huron, South Dakota
May 21, 2005
Viborg

Viborg Enterprise
May 26, 2005

Norman Ostroot



Norman Ostroot, 83, died Sat., May 21, 2005, surrounded by his family.

Norman "Butch" Ostroot was born on August 16, 1922 in

Huron to George and Marie (Jurisdal) Ostroot. He attended schools in Oldham, S.D., Minneapolis, Minn. and Sioux Falls, S.D. He graduated from Viborg High School in 1940. During his high school years, he followed in his father's footsteps, working in the printing business, first as a "printer's devil."

He joined the U.S. Army in 1942, serving in North Africa, Italy and Germany as part of the 36th Infantry Division. It was from these last assignments that he penned a tribute to the soldiers of the Fifth Army who valantly fought in the Cassion (Liri Valley, Italy) and Anzio (Italy) Beachhead campaigns. The poem "Purple Heart Path," was featured in the Puptent Poets Corner of the European edition of *Stars and Stripes*.

Upon returning from military duty, Norman married Carolina Hansen on March 1, 1946 in Viborg. They spent a short time

in Mobridge, before returning to Viborg to assist his father publishing the *Viborg Enterprise*. Norman and Carolina (Kelly) assumed ownership of the *Enterprise* in 1959 until retiring in 1984.

Norman and Kelly had three children, son Vaughn, daughter Nita (Kury), and daughter Julie. Carolina passed away on March 1, 1990.

On July 18, 1991, Norman married Bertha Eckstein in Viborg at Our Savior's Lutheran Church. During their last fourteen years, Norman and Bertha enjoyed many bus excursions across the US.

Norman was preceded in death by his parents, George and Marie, wife Kelly, son Vaughn and two brothers, Edward and Delmar.

He is survived by his wife Bertha of Viborg, daughter Nita and son-in-law Paul Kury of Euless, Texas, daughter Julie of

Sioux Falls, granddaughter Jocelyn Kury of Denver, Colo., brother George, Jr. of St. Louis, Mo., stepdaughter Joanne and son-in-law Ron Klumb of West Bend, Wis., stepdaughter Delores Salinas of Lincoln, Neb., and stepdaughter Karen and Lyle Knutson of Wakonda, plus many nephews, nieces, step-grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and many friends.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, May 24, 2005 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Viborg. Interment at Rosehill Cemetery, Viborg.

Purple Heart Path

by Norman Ostroot

Do you remember Purple Heart Path?

The mud...the bloody... and the Mad war's wrath?

The cunning enemy just yards away, The crying wounded and the silent dead?

The wire barbed...the fields mined, The road ahead...but not behind?

Yes, I remember...I can't forget,

The roads were muddy...the fields wet,

There were shells exploding and tracers flying,

The despair and moans of the wounded...Dying.

Yes, I remember Purple Heart Path...

The mud...the blood...and the Mad war's wrath!