

Joseph Francis McLaughlin, son of John and Margaret Reidi McLaughlin, was born in Neola, on June 1, 1901. He died at Bergan Mercy hospital in Omaha, Nebr., on June 23, 1976, at age 75 years and 22 days. As a small child he moved with his parents to a farm near Portsmouth, He attended Portsmouth schools and grew to adulthood on his parent's farm. He served in the U.S. Navy during WW I. After completing his service, he returned to the Portsmouth area where he engaged in farming. On Feb. 6, 1925, he married Irene Fenton in Co. Bluffs. Mr and Mrs McLaughlin were privileged to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary last year. After their marriage, Mr and Mrs McLaughlin moved to Omaha, Nebr., where he was employed at Wilson & Company, Inc. He worked there for 35 years, retiring in 1966. Since his retirement, he continued to make his home in Omaha. He was a former member of the First United Methodist church in Harlan and was a member of the Omaha American Legion Post No. 1.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by an infant son, Robert Francis; three prothers - John, Robert and Mike; and by two sisters - Sister Mary Leo and Evelyn. Survivors are his wife, Irene, of Omaha; a brother, Leo, of Clarinda; two sisters -Cecelia (Mrs Frank Gessert) of Portsmouth and Julia (Mrs Leo Sellen) of Carroll; nieces and nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held at Pauley Funeral Home, on Saturday, June 26, 1976, with Rev. David Arch, Pastor of the Overland Hills Baptist church of Papillion, Nebr., officiating. Burial was in the Harlan cemetery, with Ray McLaughlin, James McLaughlin, Robert McLaughlin, Roland McLaughlin, Francis McLaughlin and Richard McLaughlin serving as casketbearers.