

Emil W. Nelson, 80

HARLAN — Emil Walter Nelson, son of Thomas K. and Mary (Larson) Nelson, was born in Harlan on Jan. 18, 1897. He attended grade school at Park School and grew to adulthood in Harlan. Emil was baptized in the Danish Baptist church in Harlan on Jan. 1, 1913. After attending business college in Harlan, he enlisted in the U. S. Air Force Service in Jan. of 1918 and served as a Flying Cadet in WW I. He received his honorable discharge in Nov. of 1918 and returned to Harlan where he worked with his father at the Nelson Gas Engine Factory. For several years he also drove race cars his father had built. On Sept. 29, 1920, he married Cecelia Dell Trobaugh in Omaha, Nebr. Four children were born to this union. After their marriage, Mr and Mrs Nelson made their home in Harlan where Emil was employed as an automobile dealer since 1924. After Mrs Nelson's death in 1963, Emil continued to make his home in Harlan. He retired in March of 1977 and just recently had moved into the Westridge Apartments. It was here he died on June 23, 1977, at age 80 years, 5 months and 5 days. Mrs Nelson was a charter member of the Helmer Reyelt Post No. 150 American Legion in Harlan and was a past president of the Harlan Kiwanis Club.

In addition to his parents and his wife, he was preceded in death by a daughter, Margaret and by a sister, Myrtle Miller. His survivors include two sons - Robert and William Nelson, both of Harlan; a daughter, Carolyn (Mrs Dennis Hodapp) of Lubbock, Tex.; and by eight grandchildren, by two sisters - Mabel Miller and Rosie (Mrs Victor Rhodes) both of Omaha, Nebr.; nieces and nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were conducted at Pauley Funeral Home in Harlan, on Monday, June 27, 1977 with Rev. Richard G. Wagner, pastor of St. Michael's Catholic church in Harlan, officiating. Burial was in the Harlan cemetery, with Joe Nelson, Steve Owen, Scott Owen, Lou Somerville, John Jorgensen and James Jorgensen serving as pallbearers. Military rites were conducted at the graveside by the Helmer Reyelt Post No. 150 American Legion of Harlan.