

Swift, 84

1978

Harlan — Russell Freeman Swift, son of Tina E. Koolbeck and Curran F. Swift was born Jan. 20, 1893 in Harlan. He died Dec. 23, 1977 at Myrtle Memorial hospital in Harlan at age 84 years, 11 months and 3 days. He graduated from the Harlan high school in 1911 and from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln in 1915 with degrees of L.L.B. and J.D. He was Clerk of the District Court before he opened a law office in Harlan where he practiced law until the outbreak of WWI. He entered the service and became a Lieutenant in the Air Service. At the close of the war he returned to Harlan and re-opened his law office. He helped organize Helmer Reyelt Post No. 150 - American Legion and was its' first secretary, and later was post commander. In 1922 he married Aasta Boysen and to this union four children were born. Mr Swift served two terms as Shelby County Attorney from 1924-1928. He is a Past Master of Parion Lodge A.F. & A.M. of Harlan. In 1941 he was appointed a member of the Iowa Liquor Control Commission where he served for 12 years, during nine years of this time he was the elected treasurer of the National Alcoholic Beverage Assn. The Swifts were residents of Des Moines while he was in the employment of the state, but returned to Harlan in 1960.

He was preceded in death by his parents and one sister - Helen. Survivors include his wife - Aasta of Harlan, two sons - Freeman of Edina, Minn., and Russell of San Francisco, Calif., two daughters - Nancy (Mrs Richard Onnen) of Arlington Heights, Ill., and Cynthia (Mrs William Murphy) of Marshall, Minn. one brother - Gaillard of Elk Horn and one sister - Mrs Catherine Bartling of Omaha, eight grandchildren and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Monday, Dec. 26, 1977 at the Harlan St. Paul's Episcopal church with Father Glenn Rankin officiating. Burial was in the Harlan Cemetery with William Swift, Curran Swift, Max Bacon, Gail Stessman, Dean Frederickson and Bennett Cullison Jr. serving as casket-bearers.