

DON PEARCE OBITUARY

(as submitted by Norvin Pearce)

Don Pearce, 59 of Chappell, NE. died Saturday, February 21, 1987 at the Scottsbluff Villa Nursing home in Scottsbluff, NE. Funeral services were held at 11:00 a.m., Tuesday, February 24, 1987 in the United Methodist Church in Chappell with the Rev. Bog Neben officiating. Masonic services were conducted by the Golden Fleece Lodge #205 A.F. and graveside services and burial at 11:00 a.m. Wednesday February 25 1987 in the Arnold Cemetery at Arnold, NE.

Donald Harrell Pearce, the son of Cecil McCammon and Liela Alma (Harrell) Pearce was born June 15, 1927 in a sod house on his grandfather's homestead in the Powell Canyon near Arnold, NE. He graduated from Arnold High School in 1945. In May of 1945, he entered the U.S. Navy, served during WW II, and was discharged in July of 1946.

On January 4, 1953 he was united in marriage to Orabelle Leah Zalud at Arnold, NE. He ranched in Eddyville and Arnold, NE. before going to work for the Nebraska Brand Committee in 1954 at Grand Island, NE. He was transferred to Chappell as a State Brand Inspector in 1969.

Don served as the commander of the American Legion in Eddyville, NE., on the Dawson Extension Board and on the Eddyville School Board. He was Past Master of the Golden Fleece Lodge #205 A. F. and A.M. in Chappell and served as Guardian for the Job Daughters. He was past Worthy Patron of the Luceba Chapter #220 of the Eastern Star, and held membership in the Scottish Rite of Alliance, NE. He also taught Sunday School at his church, the United Methodist Church of Chappell.

Don liked to play the guitar and sing and often provided an entertaining fellowship for his family and friends. Don will mostly be remembered as a historian. His membership in the Sod House Society, his interview by a Lincoln Radio Station on "the life of a cowboy" and his research into the history of Powell Canyon and Custer County, demonstrate his love for Nebraska history and his great respect for his own Heritage.

Those who knew Don well will especially remember him as "The Storyteller". His exciting stories, told with detail, were vividly portrayed and clearly remembered and allowed the folklore of NE. and the traditions of the Pearce and Harrell families to come alive. He was known as "The Cowboy" to many in his Chappell years but Don told his nieces and nephews at their last storytelling session, that his epitath should read, "Just One More Story To Tell".

Survivors include his wife, Leah of Chappell, NE., one son, John of Kansas City, MO., his father, Cecil of York, NE. and two brothers, Norvin of York, NE. and David of Plano,

TX. He had one grandson, Anthony Harrell Pearce. He was preceded in death by his mother and one brother.

Donald Harrell Pearce is laying where he can lift up his eyes to the hills from whence cometh his strength. His strength cometh from the Lord. Don loved to ride horses, and stated, "Take me back home to my Grandfather's family plot so I can lay there and look at the hills where I used to Cowboy".