

ALBERT - Joseph Albert of Brooks, Alberta died on June 20, 1988 in the Nursing Home Brooks Health Centre at the age of 89 years.

He was born in Saskatchewan and at the age of 16 in 1915 he joined the army in the First World War and served overseas in 1916 with the 217th Battalion until his discharge in 1919. During his service he was in the battle of Vimy Ridge and later served in England where he learned the blacksmith trade.

Following his discharge he returned to the family farm in Saskatchewan and married the former Helen Albert on July 2, 1919.

He later found work in the coalmines in the Lethbridge area where he worked for six years before moving to Milk River before re-enlisting at the beginning of the Second World War. His last three years of service were spent blacksmithing at Suffield Forces Base.

He came to Brooks in 1946 and worked at his trade for John Docka for two years also at Brooks Garage and at Grimm Alfalfa before starting his own business in 1952 which he operated until the age of 80 years. He was fondly known as Joe the Blacksmith by all who knew him.

He was predeceased by his wife Helen on May 7, 1977, three sons Joseph in 1944 in Belgium, John in 1981 and William (Lindsay) in 1988.

Surviving are five sons, Elmer (Joyce) of Penticton, Alfred (Belle) of Campbell River, B.C., Leonard (June) of Kamloops, B.C., Herman (Lydia) of Richmond, B.C. and Gerald of Brooks, three daughters, Elsie (Don) Murray of Nanaimo, Donna (Peter) Peterson of Medicine Hat and Priscilla (Marvin) Holand of Brooks and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren, two sisters, Julia Sebo of Regina and Irma Daymen of Courtney, B.C., a brother Calvin Albert of Kipling, Sask. and numerous nieces and nephews.

Funeral service will be held on Friday, June 24 at 2 p.m. in Smith Funeral Chapel with the Reverend Jim Hamilton officiating. Military service and honorguard by members of the Brooks E.I.D. Branch Royal Canadian Legion. Interment following in the Brooks Cemetery.

Pallbearers are Jeff Anoerson, Jim Anderson, John Juska, Danny Albert, Bobby Albert and Don Lorenzetto.

If friends desire memorial donations may be made to the Brooks Health Centre Memorial Fund.

Smith Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

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