



## Maurice W. Smith

December 25, 1920 - December 11, 2013

Maurice W. Smith, age 92, of Fonda, Iowa passed away Wednesday, December 11, 2013 at the Fonda Nursing & Rehab Center. Maurice was born December 25, 1920, to Walter and Edith Smith in their family farm house in rural Halfa, Iowa. Maurice had three brothers and a sister. He graduated from Seneca High School in 1939, after which he stayed on the farm for one year. He then went to Air Craft Technology School in Kansas City. After graduation he was sent to Dayton, Ohio to work at Patterson Wright until 1945. He then decided to serve his country by joining the Air Force. He was stationed at Tinian Island off Japan. His duty as a mechanic in the Air Force was to work on air plane engines during World War II that carried atomic bombs, including the Enola Gay that carried the first atomic bomb on August 6, 1945. He worked for a Ford dealership in Emmetsburg, Iowa as a mechanic. Maurice then decided on a new career as a carpet layer working with Ryan Furniture in Emmetsburg, Iowa. Maurice took pride in the fact that he had laid over a million yards of carpet. After discharge from the service he was united in marriage to Beverly A. Burg from Graettinger, Iowa, which brought two daughters. They settled down in Ohio for a short time and then moved back to Iowa. Maurice and Beverly then divorced. He had a short marriage to Violet Hough. In later years he met and married Mae Sovquick which lasted 26 years. She spent the last 10 years in the nursing home in Fonda next door to their home. Maurice would walk to the nursing home twice each day to see Mae. This is also the nursing home where Maurice spent his last days.

Maurice was preceded in death by his parents, three brothers and his sister. Maurice suffered from heart problems and glaucoma which left him legally blind. Surviving Maurice are two daughters, Nancy (Harry Ginkens) of Marion, Iowa and Dolores (Don Fonley) of Marana, Arizona; five grandchildren, Brian Ginkens (Urbandale, Iowa), Scott Ginkens (Sugarland, Texas), Kari Ritter (Marion, Iowa), Tanya Foxhoven (Marana, Arizona), and Todd Foxhoven (Red Rock, Arizona), and 10 great grandchildren. The family would like to extend a special thank you to all the employees of the Fonda Nursing Home for their friendship to Maurice and the great care they took of our father, grandpa and great grandpa. A special thank you to the nursing home van driver, Bob Dishey, a friendship that Maurice valued.