

Merle Leron Christensen

October 16, 1917 – March 4, 2000



Merle Christensen, a retired Oakland Tribune printer for 34 years, died suddenly of pneumonia. He was 82.

He was born in Badger, South Dakota October 16, 1917 to the parents of John and Martha Maddie (Marquardt) Christensen. He attended South Dakota School for the Deaf and graduated in 1938.

He married Bernice Clara Samshal on March 15, 1940. They lived in Pleasant Hill, California for 50 years.

He was member at Walnut Creek Senior Center, Walnut Creekers Seniors Baseball Team. He enjoyed playing bridge card game, yard work and photography.

He was survived by his wife of 60 years, Bernice; sons, Dave and Wayne of Concord, Rod of San Jose; daughter, Donna of Petaluma; nine grandchildren; and 17 great-grandchildren.

He had a private graveside services at Oakmont Memorial Park, Lafayette, CA.



Runners-up of Midwest Schools for the Deaf Basketball tourney



Back row - Coach A.J. Krohn, Orvell Rust, Carroll Christensen, Leo bender, Glen Ziegler, manager E. Ivan Curtis
Front row - George Hanson, Merle Christensen, Captain Edwin Engelgau, Layle Shoup, and Palmer Larson