

News Banner, Wells County, Indiana; Monday, March 24, 2008

Gene Kleinknight, 88, of Ossian, died Sunday, March 23, 2008 at Bluffton Regional Medical Center.

Born in Lancaster Township on Sept. 11, 1919 to John L. and Hazel (Osborn) Kleinknight; he married Hulda Steury Leyse in Pleasantdale on March 21, 1987; she survives.

Mr. Kleinknight served in the U.S. Army during World War II and was a member of American Legion Post 111 in Bluffton. A retired farmer, he was also a member of the Pleasantdale Church of the Brethren.

Other surviving relatives include one stepson, Michael (Becky) Leyse of Decatur; one stepdaughter, Sally Leyse of Kimberly, Idaho; one brother, John H. Kleinknight of rural Ossian; two sisters, Joan Johnson of Ossian and Betty Keister of Poe; four step-grandchildren and nine step-great-grandchildren.

Mr. Kleinknight was also preceded in death by one brother and two sisters.

Funeral services will be at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday at the Pleasantdale Church with the Rev. Jay Carter officiating. Calling hours will be from 2 to 8 p.m. Tuesday at the Elzey-Patterson-Rodak Funeral Home in Ossian and from one hour prior to the service at the church. Burial is at Oak Lawn Cemetery, with graveside military rites.

Preferred memorials are to the church building fund.

Contributed by Karin King