

June 2, 2004

Obit: Reinhardt Malpert

- Reinhardt "Reiny" Malpert, 90, of Aberdeen, died Sunday, May 23, 2004, at Avera St. Luke's Hospital. His funeral was held at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, May 29, 2004 at St. John's Lutheran Church, Hecla with Rev. Al Magnuson officiating. Burial followed at the Hecla City Cemetery with Military Graveside Rites being conducted by Stanley Stearns American Legion Post No. 68 of Hecla.
- Reinhardt Malpert was born July 29, 1913 at Hecla, SD to Jacob and Margaret (Hohlen) Malpert. He lived with his parents and worked doing odd jobs. In 1934 he joined the Civilian Conservation Corp. He worked as an equipment operator in Hot Springs, AR and at the Sand Lake Refuge from 1935 until 1937. He then worked on construction jobs from 1938 until 1942.
- In April of 1942, Reinhardt was drafted into the Army. He served in Europe two and a half years, in Northern Africa, Sicily, Italy, France and Germany as a mechanic and operator of the retrieving wreckers with the 93rd Company of the Anti Aircraft Units connected to the 63rd Infantry Division. He was involved in the liberation of German Concentration Camps called Dachau near Munich, Germany. He received his Honorable Discharge in October of 1945 and moved back to Hecla. He was then employed with Herseth Equipment from 1946 until 1951 and later employed with the South Dakota Highway Department as a mechanic and shop foreman from 1951 until 1976, at which time he retired. He became a resident of Bethesda Home in Aberdeen in June of 2000, where he continued to reside until the time of his death.
- Reinhardt enjoyed hunting and fishing. He loved spending time at the Missouri River.
- He is survived by one sister, Mrs. Talena Krause of Hecla, SD. He was preceded in death by his parents, eight brothers, three sisters and one niece.
- Casket bearers were Donald Krause, Norman Krause, Michael Elsen, Ernest Willem, Charlene Elsen and Glenn Elsen.