

April 28, 2003

Leon Lloyd Lanphere

- The funeral for Lloyd Lanphere was held on Thursday, April 24, 2003 at the United Methodist Church, Oakes, ND, with Reverend David Andrews officiating. Visitation Burial followed at Oakes View Cemetery.
- Leon Lloyd Lanphere, son of Albert "Leon" and Mary (Alkofer) Lanphere was born on June 28, 1919 at Hecla, South Dakota. His early youth was spent in Oakes, North Dakota, where he attended high school. On October 18, 1940, Lloyd joined the United States Army and served as a Message Center Clerk. He fought in the New Guinea and India-Burma Campaigns as one of Merrills Marauders. He and his fellow soldiers were awarded a Distinguished Unit Citation in 1944. This was later re-designated as the Presidential Unit Citation in 1966 by the President in the name of Congress. Lloyd volunteered to become one of Merrills Mauderes after President Roosevelt issued a Presidential call for volunteers for "A Dangerous and Hazardous Mission".
- Lloyd was united in marriage to Agnes "Penny" Maurine Rowe on November 13, 1944 at Hecla, South Dakota. After his discharge from the Army, Lloyd drove truck for several companies, the majority spent with Dugan Trucking. Lloyd and Penny moved around because of his trucking, but spent a majority of their years in Aberdeen, South Dakota. Penny preceded him in death on June 5, 1987. Lloyd later moved to Oakes, North Dakota, where he married Lorraine Kenny. They spent their years together in Oakes until his passing. Lloyd was an active member of the VFW and was a proud member of the Teamsters Union.
- Over the past fifteen years, Lloyd has endured many life-threatening situations. However, he has always "outwitted" the doctors and life itself. When his family thought the end was near, he always seemed to pull through. He earned the title "the come back kid" for good reason. But, unfortunately, God decided the time had come and has a place for him in His heavenly home.
- Lloyd died Sunday, April 20, 1003, at the Oakes Good Samaritan Center. He was 83 years old.
- He is survived by his wife, Lorraine; two sons, Larry (Sheryl) Lanphere, Yankton, SD and Alan (Brenda) Lanphere, Aberdeen, SD; a sister, Evelyn (Harry) Oxley, Coon Rapids, MN; five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. Lloyd was preceded in death by his first wife, his parents, one brother, Frank and one sister, Arlene.
- Dahlstrom Funeral Home in Oakes is in charge of the arrangements