



Harry Elyea

January 29, 1917 - August 31, 2011

Harry Reagle Elyea, 94, was born at home January 29, 1917 to Charles F. and Cora Reagle Elyea in Marengo Township near Marshall, Michigan. He grew up on the family farm, graduating from high school in Marshall. He attended Moody Bible Institute three months after marrying Doretha Elaine Zerbel on June 23, 1940. After graduating from Moody Bible Institute, Harry and Doretha traveled to Nigeria in 1945 as missionaries with the Sudan Interior Mission. There they served mainly in Jos, Rahama, and Bursali, until 1968. His giftedness in things mechanical often brought him to repairing vehicles and equipment for other missionaries. His zeal for evangelization found outlets in extensive dispensary work and village ministries. Back home in the States, he was active in jail ministry, tract distribution, and installation of gospel signs. He continued in ministry right up to the end of his life. He is survived by his wife of 71 years, Doretha Elyea; nine children, Daniel Elyea of Okeechobee, Frances Cook of Marshall, Michigan, Thomas Elyea of Portage, Michigan, Douglas Elyea of Belmont, Michigan, Shirley Aeschbacher of Versailles, Missouri, Iva Grennell of Graham, Washington, Lorna Couch of Kentwood, Michigan, Timothy Elyea of Belmont, Michigan, and Roxann Burton of Wauchula, Florida; 30 grandchildren and numerous great-grandchildren; and a brother, George Elyea of Marshall, Michigan. He was preceded in death by his parents, Charles F. and Cora Reagle Elyea, his sister Frances, and his brothers, Robert, Charles, and Paul. He went Home to be with his Savior on August 31, 2011 in Wauchula, Florida. Interment will take place at Oakridge

Cemetery in Marshall, Michigan.