

MSG (Ret) Henry A. 'Hank' Nickle

July 12, 1922 - March 11, 2007



Henry A. Nickle, 84, died March 11, 2007 at his home in Lawton, Oklahoma, from cancer. Graveside service for retired Master Sgt. Henry A. "Hank" Nickle, 84, Lawton, will be at 10 a.m. Thursday at Highland Cemetery with Chaplain Maj. Terrence Walsh, Fort Sill, officiating. Burial with full military honors will be under direction of Becker Funeral Home.

He was born July 12, 1922, in Ottawa, Ill., to Charles and Nettie Martindale Nickle. He married Shirley J. Spence March 16, 1946, in Ottawa. He was drafted into the U.S. Army on October 16, 1942, during World War II. After training, he was assigned to the 381st Infantry Regiment, 96th Infantry Division. His first combat action was at Leyte Gulf in the Philippines on October 24, 1944. He also took part in the invasion of

Okinawa on April 1, 1945. He served as first sergeant of an Infantry Basic Training Company at Fort Lewis, Washington during the Korean War and in 1968, he was assigned to the 9th Infantry Division on the Mekong Delta in Vietnam. He served additional tours of duty in Germany at Nurnberg and Babenhausen and completed several tours at Fort Sill. He retired as a master sergeant in January 1976 in Lawton, with 28 years of active, reserve and national guard duty time. He was veteran of World War II and the Korean and Vietnam Wars. He received many commendations including the Bronze Star Medal with First Oak Leaf Cluster. He was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5263 and a member of Vietnam Veterans of America Lawton Chapter 751.

Survivors include his wife, of the home; a son and his wife, Jeffrey H. and Linda Nickle, Lawton; two daughters and their husbands: Janet M. and Richard Piccioli, Champaign, Ill.; and Janice M. and Randall Borri, Salem, Wis.; a brother, William H. Nickle, Savannah, Ga.; a sister, Elizabeth Garrison, Ottawa; eight grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents; and two brothers: Arthur Nickle and Charles R. Nickle.

Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of Southwest Oklahoma, P.O. Box 2074, Lawton 73502.

Becker Funeral Home: www.beckerfuneral.com