

Harold Robert Burch, son of Maurice Allen (1906-1984) and Myrtle Adel (Bird) (1907-1998)

Lansing State Journal, January 9, 1953

Driver Sees Train Wreck Stalled Car

Harold Burch, R. 4, Mason, watched as a train demolished his stalled automobile Friday morning.

Michigan State college police said Burch was en route home on Harrison rd. at 5:15 a. m. Friday when he lost control of his car and ran into a post which supports the guard rail at the Chesapeake and Ohio grade crossing.

The car bounced off the post, stalled in the middle of the railroad tracks and refused to start again, so Burch headed for a nearby house to make a telephone call for a wrecker, police said.

The man who lived in the house helped Burch build a small fire on the tracks to warn trains but the fire apparently was too small, police said. Minutes later, a C & O train roared into the stalled car.

The end of the story was sad for Mr. Burch, who not only had a demolished automobile on his hands but was arrested and taken to East Lansing justice court for not having a valid operator's license, and for failure to comply with the financial responsibility required of him by a Michigan court in order to drive.

He waived examination before Justice Henry Schram and his case was bound over to circuit court Monday. He was released on \$200 bond.

Burch, was born 25 May 1930, Mason, Ingham County, Michigan. He attended but did not graduate from Okemos High School. Harold was a member of Class of 1948.

In 1947 he joined the US Army and served during the Korean Conflict. After the war he married and settled back in Ingham County. Later he married a 2nd time, Maxine Elaine "Mickey" (McDaniel) Smith.

Harold died 8 March 1993, Lansing, Ingham County, interment unknown. Mickey, born 22 February 1922, died 30 April 2006.

Lansing State Journal (Lansing, Michigan) Tuesday 9 March 1993

HAROLD R. BURCH

HOLT, MI

Born May 25, 1930; died March 8, 1993 at the age of 62. Mr. Burch was a retired Master Electrician for I.B.E.W. Local #665; a veteran of the U.S. Army serving during the Korean Conflict (he enlisted in 1947). He was a member of the American Legion Post #238 in Holt; attended Okemos high School; and enjoyed playing golf, cards, cribbage and joke telling. Mr. Burch was preceded in death by his father Maurice A. (Fid) Burch; and a brother, Harry J. Burch. He is survived by his mother, Myrtle A. Burch of Holt; a

daughter, Melanie Norris; a son, Carl (Jenny) Burch; also daughters, Carol Green, Sharon (Bruce) Porter, Penny (Greg) Jipson and James Smith; 10 grandchildren, Chad Norris, Dustin Burch, also Troy, Tracy, Kip, Kelly, Chris, James, Jori and Cameron; 4 great grandchildren, Richard, Kara, Brian and David; a brother, Carl "Bud" (Judy); sisters, Norma Wissman, Carol (Ron) Foorman, Alice Connelly, Marlene (Jerry) Hunt, Marion (Jody) LaClear; sister-in-law, Elaine Burch; many nieces and nephews; best friend, Maxine "Mickey" Burch. A memorial service will be held Thursday, 2 p.m. at the Palmer-Bush Lansing Chapel with Chaplain Leonard Walline of American Legion Post #238 officiating.