

Manon Woodrow Felts, 94, retired publisher of The Commercial Review and the Dunkirk News and Sun, died Tuesday at Franklin United Methodist Community, Franklin.

Felts had served as chairman, president, publisher, vice president, and general manager during nearly 35 years with the Graphic Printing Co., retiring in January 1985. "I'm a printer," he said at the time of his retirement. "I started as a printer, and I guess I've always been a printer." Felts, who had his own printing press by the time he was 12, oversaw the transition of Jay County's newspapers from hot-type and letterpress to computers and offset printing.

Born May 15, 1916 in Dawson Springs, Ky., he was the son of Harry L. and Lena Rivers (Fox) Felts.

The family moved to Indiana in 1919 when Harry Felts went to work at the Rushville Republican. Manon Felts joined the Rushville Republican in 1934, hand-setting type for display advertising. He attended Indiana University, working his way through in the back shop of the now-gone Bloomington World, and graduated in 1941. He joined the U.S. Army the same year, serving from 1941 to 1945. Felts came to Portland in 1947 as owner of the Hoosier Print Shop. In May 1950 he joined the Graphic Printing Co., which had launched The Graphic, a weekly newspaper, six months earlier. He was vice president and general manager of the company for 20 years. He served as publisher of The Commercial Review and The News and Sun from 1970 until the early 1980s when he was named president of the company.

He was married June 6, 1957 to Virginia Carol Felts; she survives at Franklin United Methodist Community.

A member of West Walnut Street Church of Christ, he also had belonged to the Portland Rotary Club, American Legion Post No. 211, and the Emeritus Club of Indiana University.

Surviving in addition to his wife are sons, Donald A. Hanlin, Greenwood, and Hugh R. Hanlin, Plainfield; a sister, Janet Felts, Rushville; and four grandchildren.

Visitation for Manon Felts will be held from 4 to 8 p.m. Friday at Williamson and Spencer Funeral Home, Portland.

Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday at the funeral home.

Pastor Jim Nichols will officiate and burial will follow in Green Park Cemetery in Portland.

Memorials may be directed towards the Portland Foundation or the Jay County Public Library Memorial Fund c/o the funeral home.

Online condolences may be sent to [www.williamsonspencer.com](http://www.williamsonspencer.com).

**Contributed by Greg Raike - no source listed**