

Clipping hand dated May 4, 1978

Donald L. Pearson Dies; Founder of Equipment Firm

Donald L. Pearson, 68, 305 Streeter Ave., president and founder of Pearson's Harness Horse Equipment Co., died Thursday at Ball Hospital following a brief illness.

He was born in Effner and later resided in Redkey where he graduated from high school. Following graduation from Cornell University, Mr. Pearson came to Muncie and was catering manager for both the Roberts and Delaware hotels until entering military service during World War II. Upon his discharge as a major in the Air Force, he returned to Muncie and his position at the hotels.

In 1956 Mr. Pearson founded Pearson's Towne and Country Carts, later changed to its present name, which he operated with his sons, Ronald and Monty Pearson, until his death. He was also one of the owners of Raceway Products Corp., a race horse equipment manufacturing concern.

Mr. Pearson's interest in horses extended to the breeding and racing of standard bred race horses. His farm and track are located north of Muncie on Center Pike.

He was a member of Triune Lodge 15, F&AM, San Antonio, Tex., Scottish Rite Valley of Fort Wayne, Murat Temple in Indianapolis, and the Honorary Order of Kentucky Colonels.

Surviving are his wife, Kathleen (Dakin) Pearson; his two sons, Ronald and Monty, both of Muncie; five grandchildren, Rick, Monta Ann, Lesa, Chuck, and Rhonda Pearson; a sister, Mrs. Margaret Ebberts, Dayton, Ohio; two brothers, Thomas Pearson, Puerto Rico, and Robert Pearson, Indianapolis. A brother, Oakley Pearson of Indianapolis, died three weeks ago.

Services will be at 1:30 p.m. Monday at the Meeks Mortuary with Rev. Robert H. Stine of the High Street United Methodist Church officiating. Entombment will be in Elm Ridge Masoleum. Friends may call at the mortuary 2-4 and 7-9 p.m. Sunday. Members of Muncie Lodge 433, F&AM, will hold memorial services at the mortuary at 7:30 p.m. Sunday.