

---

# Royal Clark Hendershot

---

Royal Clark Hendershot (Chester L.; Andrew J.; Harvey L.; Harvey M.; David; Jacob; Johann George; Michael) was born July 14, 1920 at Grace Hospital in Hutchinson, Kansas. He was one of six children of the late Chester Leland Hendershot and Helen Adelia Lyman. He had one younger sister, Helen Marie; two older brothers, Roger Lyman and Wilbur Ellis; and, two younger brothers, Maurice Wayne and Robert Arden. Chester was a farmer in the Darlow and South Hutchinson, Kansas area and also served as Reno County Treasurer. Royal was raised on his father's farm in Reno County, Kansas where he was active in the local 4-H Club, the Rifle Club, and South Hutchinson United Methodist Church. He attended Hutchinson High School where he graduated with the class of 1938. He then went on to attend Hutchinson Community Junior College where he graduated with the class of 1940. He also managed his father's farm in 1940 while Chester served as Reno County Treasurer. In 1943 he graduated from Kansas State University with a Bachelor of Science Degree. His major was in agronomy with a minor in dairy husbandry. His post-graduate work included courses in adult education, economics, and extension work.

On January 1, 1942 he enlisted in the United States Navy with his active duty beginning on September 1, 1943. He was commissioned upon completion of the Naval Reserve course for midshipmen in Chicago, Illinois on December 22, 1943 he then completed a course on diesel engineering in Raleigh, North Carolina in May of 1944, and a 10-week class on amphibian warfare. He was assigned the rank of Ensign and appointed to serve as a midshipman on the U.S.S. LSM 70. On April 1, 1945 he was promoted from the rank of Ensign to that of Lieutenant Junior Grade. His ship was active in transporting troops to places such as the shores of Iwo Jima. He was honorably discharged from active service on March 25, 1946.

While on leave in Raleigh, North Carolina he married Lola Mae Davis (William E.; John E.; George B.; Peter C.; John; John; Thomas; Robert; Robert) at the Edenton Street Methodist Church 8:00 P.M. April 28, 1944. She was born on the family farm near Castleton, Kansas on February 19, 1924. Her parents were the late William Edmond Davis and Florence Faye Lewis of Castleton and then Hiattville, Kansas. Lola had one older brother, Lewis Edmund; one younger sister, Marjorie Kathryn Barringer; and two younger brothers, Donald Lee and Conrad LaVerne.

Royal and Lola had four children: Carol Faye Johnson, wife of Duane R. Johnson, of Lindsborg, Kansas; Steven Edmund Hendershot; Scott Clark Hendershot of Wichita, Kansas; and Reverend Stanley (Stan) Leland Hendershot (wife Monica Irene Hollingsworth) of McCook, Nebraska. Their grandchildren are Russell Duane Johnson of Turlock, California; Allen Richard Johnson of Lindsborg, Kansas; and Katherine Rose and Joel Clark Hendershot of McCook, Nebraska.

After his release from the U.S. Navy, Royal served as the noxious weed supervisor in Reno County for one year (1946) where he purchased chemicals to control the weeds, advised farmers, and treated noxious weeds that were found on farms and public land. In 1947 he taught the

Veterans On-Farm-Training class at Haven High School. And from 1948 to 1956 he operated a dairy farm near Hiattville, Bourbon County, Kansas and taught the Veterans On-Farm-Training class at Hepler High School until it closed in 1953. From 1956 to 1960 he was the assistant County Extension Agricultural Agent for Sumner County, Kansas where he helped families with farm management problems. He then worked as Kingman County, Kansas 4-H Extension Agent from 1960 to 1967 where he was responsible for organizing, planning, and executing the 4-H program including the fair, camps, involvement in statewide events, and support and supervision of local leaders. From 1967 to 1970 he served as the Morton County, Kansas Agricultural Extension Agent. At the time of his death Royal was employed by the Kingman County Engineering Department.

He had been active in the V.F.W., Chamber of Commerce, Lions Club, Kiwanis Club, and was a member of the United Methodist Church. His hobbies included hunting, fishing, gardening and spectator sports. He had a pilot license and enjoyed flying but had limited opportunity for doing so. Royal also enjoyed "tinkering" with things and always seemed to bring home a new project to fix up. On December 29, 1976, Royal suffered a massive heart attack and was pronounced dead on arrival at Mercy Hospital in Fort Scott, Kansas. He was buried at Memorial Gardens Cemetery in Fort Scott, Kansas.

For more information please contact Stan Hendershot.

**Submitted by [Stan Hendershot](#)**