

# Gas warfare specialist retiree

AIRVILLE — William E. Gross, 87, of Airville, died at 6 a.m. Monday at his home. He was the husband of Ruth E. (Howell) Gross. The couple had observed the 65th anniversary of their wedding on Sept. 19.

The service will be 2 p.m. Thursday at the Olewiler and Heffner Funeral Home Inc., 35 Gotham Place, Red Lion. Burial will be in Chanceford Presbyterian Cemetery. Viewing will be 1 to 2 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home.

Mr. Gross was born Sept. 27, 1907, at Emmorton, Md. He was the son of the late Amos L. and Anna (Barr) Gross.

He was a civilian employee at Edgewood Arsenal, Md., retiring in 1972 after 42 years of service.

A mechanical engineer and gas warfare specialist, he developed and received 17 patents for various gas masks' cannisters during World War II. He was recipient of the Civilian Medal of Valor.

He was a member of Free and Accepted Masons Mount Ararat Lodge. He belonged to Chanceford Presbyterian church.

Mr. Gross also is survived by a daughter, Deborah G. Farrington of Leola; and a grandson.

Officiating at the service will be his pastor, the Rev. Harry R. Robinson.

Memorial contributions may be made to Nature Conservancy, 1815 N. Lynn St., Arlington, Va. 22209. 04-03-95