

MOUNT VERNON, Ind. - Harold A. "Mac" McCutchan spent 50 years of his life in Posey County, and earned many friendships for his civic duty, his brother said Sunday. McCutchan, 79, died Saturday, Sept. 11, 1999, at Mount Vernon Nursing and Rehabilitation.

"He was very well-known and very well-liked," said his brother, Ross McCutchan of Mount Vernon.

A 1937 graduate of Reitz High School, McCutchan graduated from Purdue University and later attended the University of Wisconsin for graduate studies.

He was a World War II Army Air Force veteran, serving as a fighter pilot instructor, retiring with the rank of lieutenant colonel after 28 years in the service and reserves. He was a pilot for 49 years and a member of the Retired Air Force Officers Association. McCutchan moved to Posey County in 1949 and became the county extension agent, his brother said. He also served as president of the Mount Vernon Air Board, and was vice president and Farm Department Manager of Peoples Bank and Trust Co.

Ross McCutchan said his brother was the first to begin Flying Farmers' Day, aiding Southwestern Indiana farmers.

"He would pick out a field somewhere and take them up to show erosion problems," McCutchan said,

McCutchan also served on the executive committee of the American Bankers Association, and served as president and director of the Indiana Agri-Bankers Association for several years.

He was a presidential appointee on the National Committee for Agriculture, a member of Southwestern Indiana Regional Council on Aging, the Masonic Lodge and Hadji Shrine, past commander and chaplain of Veterans of Foreign Wars 5 and he had served as treasurer and auditor for several charities.

He was also past president of St. Johns United Methodist Church Governing Council and was a lay leader.

Also surviving are two daughters, Linda Walker of Mystic, Conn., and Marcia McCutchan of Mount Vernon; two sons, Keith and Brian, both of Mount Vernon; three sisters, Jane McCutchan of Evansville, Doris Dauble of Clearwater, Fla., and Marjorie Hart of Frenchtown, Mont.; another brother, Neil of Winter Haven, Fla.; and seven grandchildren, Matthew and Laura Walker, and Philip, Chris, Katie, Noah and Khristian McCutchan.

His wife, Betty J. (Williams), died in 1990.

Graveside services will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday at Blue Grass Cemetery in McCutchanville, with military rites.

Friends may call from 4 to 8 p.m. today and from 2 to 8 p.m. Tuesday at Norvell Funeral Home, with a memorial service at 7 p.m.,

Memorial contributions may be made to the Posey County Community Foundation, Mae McCutchan Scholarship Fund or to the Alzheimer's Association,