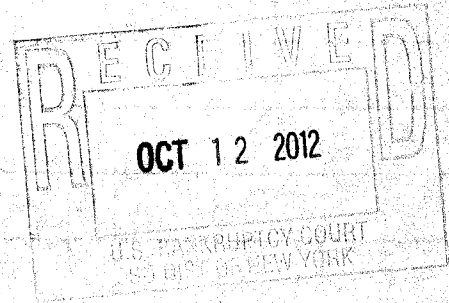


10-5-12

The Honorable Shelley C. Chapman  
One Bowling Green  
Courtroom 621  
New York, NY 10004-1408

RE: Chapter Eleven - Patriot Coal

Honorable Shelley C. Chapman,



My husband Elbert Couch is and was a UMWA miner for Peabody (Patriot Coal). Elbert passed away 9/26/2012. Not only do I have the grief of missing my husband; I now have the worry of losing his health benefits and pension. We have a developmentally handicapped daughter that also depends on these benefits. Losing Elbert's pension, health benefits would put us in poverty. I am also a Patriot disabled retired worker and would lose my pension as well. I have been recently diagnosed with Type 2 Diabetes. Our daughter, Hallee has diabetes (Type 2) as with other medical problems.

I understand times are tough, however we depend on these benefits that my husband and I worked for. Please make Peabody, Patriot and the others honor their commitment to us, their disabled retired workers and their dependants. Thank-you

Cornie E. Couch

PO Box 1166  
New Lexington  
OH 43764-0166

Friday, Sept. 28, 2012

### Elbert Couch

NEW LEXINGTON Elbert Couch, 77, passed away Wednesday, September 26, 2012 at his residence.

Born September 12, 1935 in Slamp, Kentucky. He was the son of the late George and Belle Holbrook Couch.

Elbert was a retired employee of Peabody Coal Company. Member of the United Mine Workers, Local #134, and the Tridephra Church of Christ.

He is survived by his wife, Connie DeBusek Couch, his children, Annette (Don) King of New Lexington, Rhonda Couch (Kenny) Starnes of Roseville, Haley Couch, and a step-son, Travis Phillips, both of New Lexington; grandchildren, Heidi, Scott, Andrea, Ryan, Cody, Derek, Travis, Kelsi, Raelyn & Carly; eight great-grandchildren; brothers, Hassel Couch of Michigan, Homer and Gerald Couch of Kentucky; sisters, Naomi Williams of Michigan, Haley Waddell, Wanda Eldridge, Nellie Litteral and Della Caddill, all of Kentucky; many nieces, nephews and cousins.

Besides his parents, Elbert was preceded in death by step-son, Nathaniel Combs; sister, Wada Duade; and brothers, Ellis Couch and George Jr.

Calling hours will be held Saturday, September 29, 2012 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Ghute-Wiley Funeral Home, 118 S. Jackson St., New Lexington. Funeral services will follow viewing at 11:00 a.m. Saturday at the funeral home with the Reverend Richard Newton officiating. Burial will follow.