

# Roy Irwin Baird, 80

Roy Irwin Baird, 80, of Montezuma, Iowa died Aug. 28, 2001 at his home.

Funeral services were Friday, Aug. 31, 2001 at Watts Funeral Home, Montezuma, Iowa. Officiating was Rev. Burr Bryant of the United Methodist Church, Montezuma. Music was provided by Darrell Brand, soloist singing "The Old Rugged Cross" and "One Day At A Time" and Kathleen Ramsey, organist.

Honorary casket bearers were Dick Bowers, Carroll Hershberger, Wavern Briggs and Philip Grier. Casket bearers were Aaron Masterson, John Schwertfeger, Ron Schwertfeger, Jr., Larry Simpson, Doug Baird and Don Turner.

Interment was in Jackson Township Cemetery, Montezuma, with arrangements by Watts Funeral Home. Memorials may be directed to the Montezuma Volunteer Fire Department or Blakley-Stevens American Legion Post 169.

He was born Feb. 3, 1921 in rural Montezuma, the son of Charles and Mary (Wright) Baird. He graduated from Montezuma High School in 1938. On Aug. 28, 1942 he was united in marriage with Verna Mae Goodwin at Lancaster, Mo. To this union four children were born, 2 boys and 2 girls.

Roy served in the U.S. Army from 1942 to 1945 in the Pacific during World War II. He retired after nearly 30 years as a mechanic with the Montezuma John Deere dealership. He was a member of the Blakley-Stevens American Legion Post No. 169, the V.F.W. Post No. 8876 and the Montezuma Volunteer Fire Department. He enjoyed anything pertaining to green machinery, taking care of his yard, visiting with friends and telling jokes.

He was preceded in death by his parents, a son Del David in infancy, and one grandson, Steven Roy Schwertfeger.

Roy is survived by his wife, Verna, of Montezuma; a son and his wife, Roy Jr. and Barb of Eau Claire, Wis.; two daughters, Judi Baird of Newton, Iowa and Gelene and her husband, Ron Schwertfeger of Des Moines, Iowa; 3 grandchildren, Stephanie and Aaron Masterson of Wausau, Wis.; Ron Jr. and Melissa Schwertfeger of Huntsville, Ala. and John and Rebecca Schwertfeger of Ely, Iowa; 1 step granddaughter, Sarah Kiefer of Eau Claire, Wis.; 3 great grandchildren, Kira and Rylee Masterson and MacKenzie Schwertfeger; one brother, Lester Baird of Montezuma; and other relatives and many friends.

MR September 12, 2001