

James Bryan, 81

James Bryan, 81, of Springfield, Mo., died Nov. 26, 2003, near Pryor, Okla., the result of a heart attack.

His funeral service was Saturday, Nov. 29, at the Crestview Church of the Nazarene, Springfield, Mo., with the Revs. Dan Arnold and Luther Paris officiating. Interment was at the Jackson Township Cemetery, Montezuma, on Monday, Dec. 1, with military burial rites performed by members of the Blakley-Stevens American Legion Post No. 169 of Montezuma. Watts Funeral Home of Montezuma was in charge of the arrangements.

Iowa casket bearers were Jason Bryan, Kris Bryan, John Bryan, Vince Bryan, Craig Bryan and Eric Bryan.

Missouri casket bearers were Rob Bryan, Curt Bryan, Jason Bryan, Gavin Bryan, Jerry Morris and Doug Taylor.

James was born near Montezuma on June 25, 1922, the son of Glenn and Ida (Harner) Bryan. On Sept. 27, 1941, he was united in marriage with Donna L. Newport at New Sharon. God blessed them with five sons, James Ray, Gary Curtis, Steven John, Russell Glen and Gordon Scott. They lived in Iowa for several years. James was a World War II

Army veteran, serving his country from 1942 to 1945 in Europe. He then farmed for eight years, but had to give that up due to his health. During the next several years, James was self-employed. They lived in Illinois for six years before moving back to Iowa. In 1979, he was forced to retire due to many health problems and they moved to Missouri. He was a member of the Crestview Church of the Nazarene in Springfield. James was a wonderful family man, was an avid traveler and was always in his element when he was out with his camper. He made many trips to the 48 states, Canada and Mexico. James loved God, his family, his church and many old friends.

Survivors include his wife of 62 years, Donna; five sons, Ray (Eunice) of Billings, Mo., Gary (Jean) of Broken Arrow, Okla., Steve of Columbia, Mo., Russell of Broken Arrow, Mo., and Scott (Bernadette) of Bois D'Arc, Mo.; 15 grandchildren; 20 great-grandchildren; a sister, Delores Gillam of Oskaloosa; three sister-in-laws, a host of nieces and nephews and many friends.

He was preceded in death by two brothers, Edwin and Frank.

MR DEC 3 2003