Harold L. Hester

Harold L. Hester, 45, of Montezuma died Saturday, Nov. 23, 2002, at Grinnell Regional Medical Center.

A vigil service was held Tuesday, Nov. 26, at Watts Funeral Home in Montezuma. The Rev. Mr. Steve Witt, deacon, and a funeral Mass was held Wednesday morning, Nov. 27, at St. Mary’s Catholic Church in Grinnell with the Rev. William Reynolds, pastor of the church, officiating. Casket bearers were Rick Warden, Don Henry, Tom McMeekin, Shane McCaslen, Curt Anderson and Tom Sheets. Honorary casket bearers were members of the Montezuma Volunteer Fire Department. Interment was in Jackson Township Cemetery in Montezuma.

He was born Jan. 14, 1957, in Des Moines, the son of R. Maxey and Billie Garrett Hester. He graduated from Montezuma High School in 1976. On July 30, 1985, he was united in marriage with Diane Van Gorp. He had worked for Sig Manufacturing in Montezuma since 1976 and was a designer of model airplanes.

He had been a member of the Montezuma Volunteer Fire Department since March 1, 1979, and was a certified EMT who responded frequently with the Montezuma ambulance. He also was a member of St. Mary’s Catholic Church in Grinnell; the Academy of Model Aeronautics and the Experimental Aircraft Association.

He is survived by his wife Diane of Montezuma, three children, Nick, a student in Sarasota, Fla., Lauren, 16, and Austin, 12, both at home; his father and stepmother, Maxey Hester and Hazel Sig-Hester of Montezuma; a brother Daniel Hester of New Sharon; three sisters, Joyce Hester, Montezuma, Nancy Lammers, Brooklynn, and Doris Gertz of Montezuma. He was preceded in death by his mother Billie.