Melvin J. Kasal, 78

Melvin J. Kasal, 78, of Grinnell, died Sunday, November 9, 2003, at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics in Iowa City.

Services will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, November 12, at the Grinnell Christian Church, with the Rev. John Epperson officiating.

The honorary casket bearers will be Erin and Kasey Bannon, Ann Christensen, Adam and Ryan Kirkey, Nichole Lebeda, Jennifer McCluskey and Michelle Prull.

The casket bearers will be Ben Bannon, Mike Christensen, Mike Lebeda, Nate Lester, Derek McCluskey, Rick Prull, and Fred and Gary Showalter. Internment will be in the Rector Cemetery in Chelsea.

Memorial contributions may be directed to the Grinnell Christian Church or the Grinnell Regional Hospice.

Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell is handling arrangements.

Melvin, the son of Joseph and Helen (Chezik) Kasal, was born October 17, 1925, in Chelsea. He was a graduate of Chelsea High School. He married Rozelle Showalter on June 19, 1945, in Brooklyn. The couple lived for 37 years north of Brooklyn. They also worked for the ASCS in Poweshiek County for 20 years.

The couple later divorced, and he married Carol Macek Showalter on May 27, 1983, at the Little Brown Church in Nashua. They lived in Grinnell, where he was active with the Grinnell Christian Church. He also was a volunteer with the Grinnell Regional Hospice for several years. He was a recipient of its Volunteer of the Year award.

Survivors include his four daughters, Catherine McCluskey of Cedar Rapids, Wanda Lester of Aplington, Pamela Bannon of Marion, and Amy Kirkey of West Branch; his sister, Gladys Spinler, of Chicago; 11 grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.

Melvin was preceded in death by his second wife, Carol; two brothers, Carl and Harold Kasal; and one great-grandson.