Raymond C. Tarvin, 84

Raymond C. Tarvin, 84, of Grinnell, and formerly of Malcom, died Thursday, March 27, at his home in Grinnell.

His funeral service was Monday, March 31, at Watts Funeral Home in Montezuma with the Rev. George Salnave officiating, assisted by the Rev. John Reynolds. Burial was at Pleasant Township Cemetery at Ewart. There was a Masonic Memorial Service Monday in conjunction with the funeral ceremony.

Raymond was born Oct. 30, 1918, at Barnes City, the son of Roy and Una Mae Turney Tarvin. He was raised on the family farm, and graduated from Montezuma High School with the Class of 1937. He was united in marriage to Margaret Bates at Grinnell on March 2, 1938. Following their marriage, they operated a dairy farm near Montezuma until moving to Malcom in 1942 to farm. They farmed near Malcom, but Raymond also had worked for Meadow Gold Dairy and the Montezuma Dairy for a time, and later with the A.S.C.S. office in Malcom. He retired from farming in 1980, but continued living on the farm until December 1994 when they moved to Grinnell. He was a member of the Malcom Presbyterian Church where he had served as an elder, treasurer, and trustee. He was also a member of the Lily Lodge A.F. & A.M. in Malcom, and held various offices within the lodge, and was a 32nd Degree Scottish Rite Mason and a member of the KAABA Shrine Temple of Davenport and had been the president of the Mahaska and Poweshiek Shrine Clubs and a member of the Ski-Abba parade unit of Oskaloosa. He enjoyed driving children to the Shriners Children’s Hospital in Chicago and watching their progress. He was also a member of the Holly chapter No. 477, Order of the Eastern Star of Malcom. He had been active in 4-H as a 4-H leader and had been president of the Poweshiek County 4-H fair board.

He is survived by his wife, Margaret, of Grinnell, a son and his wife, Leo and Linda Tarvin of Montezuma; three daughters and their husbands, LaRae and Norman Schutte of Newton; Sheryl and Dennis Johnson of Los Altos, Calif.; and Michelle and Jerry Headding of Grapeview, Wa.; a daughter-in-law, Marcia Tarvin of Montezuma; a brother-in-law whom they raised, John and his wife Joetta Bates of Deep River; 18 grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren; and two sisters, Marjorie (and Floyd) Little of Montezuma and Bertha Vanderburgh of Grinnell, and other relatives and many friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a son, Edwin Tarvin on Oct. 16, 1980; a grandson-in-law, Wayne Foust; four brothers, Everett, Cleo, Floyd and Clark Tarvin and two sisters, Lois Tarvin and Lodi Slagle.

Memorials may be made to either Hospice of Grinnell, the Shriners Children’s Hospital in Chicago or the Ronald McDonald House in Iowa City.
Raymond C. Tarvin

Raymond C. Tarvin, 84, of Grinnell died Thursday, March 21, at his home here.

Funeral services for Raymond C. Tarvin were held today (Monday, March 31) at 10 a.m. in the Watts Funeral Home in Montezuma, with the Rev. George Salmave, assisted by the Rev. John Reynolds, officiating. A Masonic Memorial Service was planned in conjunction with the funeral ceremony.

Burial was in the Pleasant Township Cemetery at Ewan.

Raymond Tarvin was born Oct. 30, 1918 at Barnes City, the son of Roy and Una Mae Turney Tarvin. He was raised on the family farm and graduated from Montezuma High School with the class of 1937.

On March 2, 1938, he married Margaret Bates in Grinnell. The couple operated a dairy farm near Montezuma until moving to Malcom in 1942 to farm. He also worked for Meadow Gold Dairy and the Montezuma dairy, and later for the ASCS office in Malcom.

He retired from farming in 1980, but the couple continued to live on the farm till December 1994, when they moved to Grinnell.

He was a member of the Malcom Presbyterian Church, where he served as an elder, treasurer and trustee. He was also a member of the Lily Lodge A.F. & A.M. in Malcom, and held various offices within the lodge. He was a 32 degree Scottish Rite Mason and a member of the KAABA Shriners Temple of Davenport. He had been president of both the Mahaska and Poweshiek Shrine Clubs and a member of the Ski-Aba parade unit of Oskaloosa.

He enjoyed driving children to the Shriners Children's Hospital in Chicago and watching their progress.

He was also a member of the Holly Chapter No. 477, Order of the Eastern Star of Malcom.

He was also active in S-H, as a leader and as a president of the Poweshiek County Fair Board.

He is survived by his wife, Margaret, of Grinnell; a son, Leo Tarvin of Montezuma; three daughters, LaRae Schütte of Newton, Sheryl Johnson of Los Altos, Calif., and Michelle Headding of Grapeview, Wash.; a daughter-in-law, Marcia Tarvin of Montezuma; a brother-in-law, John Bates of Deep river; 18 grandchildren; and two sisters, Marjorie Little of Montezuma and Bertha Vandenburgh of Grinnell, plus many other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a son, Edwin Tarvin; a grandson-in-law; four brothers, Everett, Cleo, Floyd and Clark; and two sisters, Lois Tarvin and Lodi Slagle.

Memorials may be made to either Hospice of Grinnell, the Shriners Children's Hospital in Chicago, or the Ronald McDonald House in Iowa City.