John L. "Hank" Higdon


A funeral service was held Monday, Jan. 4, 2010, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Grinnell with the Rev. Nick Adam, pastor of the church, officiating. Music was provided by Marilyn Krieger, organist, and St. Mary's Choir. Casket bearers were Mark, Paul and Robert Higdon, Bill McNally, Denny and Sam Schmitz. Burial was at Hazelwood Cemetery in Grinnell.

Memorials may be made to St. Francis Manor or to St. Mary's Catholic Church.

He was born on March 13, 1915, at Grinnell to Louis and Catherine Anna Deveraux Higdon. He attended rural school and St. Ambrose Academy in Davenport, Iowa. Following his education he moved to San Diego, Calif., and worked as a welder during World War II. He returned to Grinnell and assisted with the family farm operation until his retirement in 1975.

He was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church and the Elks Lodge. He was an avid Chicago Cubs fan and he enjoyed playing cards at the Elks Lodge.

He is survived by his sister, Mildred Schmitz of Lake City, and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, three brothers, James, Frank and Joseph Higdon; and three sisters, Sister Annette Higdon, Sister Louise Higdon and Elizabeth Goreham.