Leslie "Rex" McDowell, 88, formerly of Grinnell and Waterloo, died Sunday, March 1, 2009, at the Western Home.

Services were held Wednesday, March 4, at Kearns, Huismann-Schumacher Chapel with burial in the Garden of Memories Cemetery, both in Waterloo. Graveside military rites were by Guy W. Iversen Amvets Post #349 of Cedar Falls.

He was born April 3, 1920 in Grinnell, the son of Leslie A. and Blanch I. Johnson McDowell. He married Barbara O'Conner in November 1956 in Cedar Falls. She preceded him in death on April 22, 1998.

He served in the United States Air Force during World War II and retired from H & W Freight Line in September 1983. He was a member of the Cedar Falls Lions Club, receiving the Melvin Jones Award in 1984.

He is survived by four sons: Russell "Butch" E. McDowell of Atlanta, Ga., David A. McDowell of Waterloo, Larry D. McDowell and Ron L. McDowell, both of Atlanta, Ga., one daughter: Kim K. Cooling of Thornton, one sister: Shirley Pulkabek of Brandon, 14 grandchildren and seven great grandchildren.