Mel E. Nowotny, 85

Mel E. Nowotny, 85, North Liberty, died Saturday, Jan. 23, 2010, at his home following a brief illness.

Funeral services were held at 1:30 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 26, at Lensing’s Oak Hill, Coralville. Burial was at Ridgewood Cemetery, North Liberty. Memorials may be directed to the Johnson County Humane Society.

Mel was born March 3, 1925, in Victor, the son of Edward and Lena Berschied Nowotny. He married Alice Heath in Cedar Rapids and on Jan. 1, they celebrated their 63rd wedding anniversary.

Mel was the manager of the K-Mart automotive departments in this area, until his retirement in 1990. Prior to that, he had worked at J & R Auto in Cedar Rapids. Mel served in the U.S. Army during World War II. He liked to fish, hunt and travel in their motor home. Mel was a gifted woodworker.

Mel is survived by his wife, Alice; and their two children, Dennis (Nila) Nowotny of Iowa City, and Diane (Raoul) Benoit of North Liberty; two grandsons, Joebly (Stacy) Dyer and Mike Nowotny, both of North Liberty; five great-grandchildren, Hayley, Samantha, Lisa, Kaizer and Koyer; and two sisters, Darlene and Glorene.

He was preceded in death by his parents, and brother, Harold.

Online condolences may be sent to www.lensingfuneral.com.