Gene Slaven, 88, of Grinnell died Friday, Feb. 19, 2010, at his home.
A funeral service was held Tuesday, Feb. 23, at Smith Funeral Home with the Rev. Howard Lord, retired, officiating. Honorary bearers were Donnie and Craig VanDeKrol, C.J. Reimer, Greg and Jeff McCulley, Nick and Bryan Slaven, Travis Tauber, Josh Hanson and Chad Heyveld. Burial will take place at a later date in Hazelwood Cemetery.
Memorials may be made to the Gene Slaven Memorial Fund.

He was born April 24, 1921, in Grinnell, the son of Wolford and Flora Smith Slaven, and was raised in the Grinnell, Kellogg and Rushville areas. He attended grade school in Rushville and was a graduate of Grinnell High School. He was a veteran of the United States Coast Guard during World War II.

On Oct. 27, 1944, he was united in marriage with Lisbeth Horton in Baltimore, Md. The made their home in Grinnell where he owned and operated Slaven Home Service for 60 years.

He was a 50-plus-year member of the Grinnell Odd Fellows lodge of which he was a past noble grand, and a 65-year member of the Grinnell American Legion Post which he served as commander. He also was a member of the Flutter Wheelers 060 square dancing club.

He is survived by his wife Lisbeth of Grinnell; his sons and daughters, David Slaven of Montezuma, and Cynthia Reiner, Lisa McCulley, Debra Van DeKrol, and Julie Doucet; all of Grinnell; 12 grandchildren; and 16 great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents; two brothers, Guy and Leroy Slaven and three sisters, Beulah Olson, Thelma Winstead and Helen Clayton.
Gene Slaven, 88


Funeral services were held at 10:30 a.m., Tuesday, Feb. 23, at the Smith Funeral Home, with the Rev. Howard Lord, retired, of Montezuma, officiating. Honorary bearers were Donnie and Craig Van DeKrol, C.J. Reimer, Greg and Jeff McCulley, Nick and Bryan Slaven, Travis Tauber, Josh Hanson, and Chad Heyveld. Burial will be held at a later date in Hazelwood Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be directed to the Gene Slaven Memorial Fund.

Gene was born April 24, 1921, in Grinnell, Iowa, the son of Wolford and Flora Smith Slaven. He was raised in the Grinnell, Kellogg and Rushville areas. He attended grade school in Rushville and was a graduate of Grinnell High School. He was a veteran of the United States Coast Guard during World War II.

On Oct. 27, 1944, he was united in marriage to Lisbeth Horton, in Baltimore, Md. The couple made their home in Grinnell where he owned and operated Slaven Home Service for 60 years.

Gene was a 50 year member of the Grinnell Odd Fellows where he was past Noble Grand and a 65-year member of the Grinnell American Legion where he served as past commander. He was also a member of the Flutter Wheelers 600 square dancing club.

Survivors include his wife, Lisbeth of Grinnell; five children, David (Barb) Slaven of Montezuma, Cynthia (Jim) Reimer, Lisa (Gary) McCulley, Debra Van DeKrol, and Julie (Bill) Doud, all of Grinnell; 12 grandchildren; and 16 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents; two brothers, Guy and Leroy Slaven; and three sisters, Buela Olson, Thelma Winstead, and Helen Clayton.

Gene