OBITUARIES

William Tanke Jr., 82

William Tanke Jr., 82, of Deep River, was called by the Lord to his home on Sunday, Nov. 15, 2009, at the Mercy Hospice Unit of Mercy Hospital in Iowa City. Funeral services were held at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 18, at the Calvary Lutheran Church in Deep River. Burial was at the Goldenrod Cemetery in Deep River. Memorial contributions may be made to the Calvary Lutheran Church of Deep River.

William Henry Tanke Jr. was born near Deep River on March 6, 1927. He was the oldest of five children born to William H. Sr. and Marie Koehn Tanke. William was united in marriage to Zelda Ann Huedepohl on Jan. 29, 1950, at St. John’s Lutheran Church in Homestead. Bill grew up on and spent most of his adult years farming near Deep River. After moving from the farm to town, he worked at Brooklyn 80 and Tanger Mall until he retired at the age of 80 years. He enjoyed spending time with his family, attending his grandchildren’s sporting events, woodworking, gardening, nature, and reading the newspaper. He was an active member of Calvary Lutheran Church, serving in many positions, particularly as head usher.

Bill was blessed by his eleven grandchildren: Kasey (Jenny) Fisch, Kristin (Neal) Flander, Erin and Matthew Icenbice, Chad, Chandra and Chase Tanke, Kolten and Kyler Kudart, and Taryn and Tiffany Heishman. His three great-grandchildren also brightened his life: Beau, Benjamin, and Brodey Flander.

He is survived by his wife, Zelda, of nearly 60 years; his five children, Kathy (Keith) Fisch of Deep River, Cheryl (Kenneth) Icenbice of Virginia Beach, Va., Dwayne (Tammy) Tanke of Deep River, Linda (Kevin) Kudart of Montezuma, and Mary (Jeff) Heishman of Deep River; two sisters, Elaine (Don) Bates and Imogene Pierce; a sister-in-law, Katherine Tanke; as well as many extended family members.

William was preceded in death by his parents; two brothers, Arnold and Leland Tanke; and a brother-in-law, Boyd Pierce.