William E. Veal

William E. Veal, 92, of Grinnell and formerly of Visalia, Calif., died Wednesday, June 25, 2008, at the Mayflower Homes in Grinnell.

A family gathering was held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, June 28, at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell. Graveside services, with military honors, will be held this week at the Visalia Public Cemetery in Visalia, Calif.

Born July 30, 1916, in Stella, Neb., he was the son of William M. and Myrtle O. Veal. He later moved to Parks, Neb., and was a 1934 grad of Parks High School. He served with the U.S. Navy during World War II.

He married Pearl Bacus in Yakima, Wash., in 1946. The couple lived in Seattle, where he worked with aviation contractor Lockheed for several years. In the late 1950s, the couple moved to Manhattan Beach, Calif., where he worked with the city till 1973. The couple returned to Visalia. After his wife's death in 2002, he moved to Grinnell in 2005 to be near his family. He had resided at the Mayflower Homes since early this year.

He was a member of the Visalia American Legion. He enjoyed gardening and was an avid sports fan. He was active in a bowling league and followed horse-racing. He was quiet, yet had a great sense of humor.

He is survived by two sisters, Ruth Workman of Grinnell and Connie Green of Lancaster, Calif.; two nieces, Jan Lovig of Gilman and Patricia Edeburn of Cedar Rapids; and a nephew, Paul Workman of Rock Creek Lake. He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife; a son, Jack; three brothers, John, Carl and Paul; and a sister, Mildred.

Memorial contributions may be directed to the William E. Veal Memorial Fund.