

Leonard Higginbotham, 75

Leonard Michael Higginbotham, 75, of Montezuma, passed away on Monday, Aug. 29, 2010, at the Mayflower Care Center in Grinnell.

Leonard was born on Nov. 5, 1934, at Tama, the son of Pocahantas W. (Red) and Jean (Musel) Higginbotham. He attended school at St. Patrick's in Tama through the eighth grade and graduated from Tama High School in 1952. He enlisted in the United States Air Force in February 1953 with basic training at Parks AFB in California. He retired as Master Sergeant in 1975 after serving more than 22 years. Nearly 16 of those years were spent overseas in England, Germany, Scotland, Pakistan, the Philippines and Japan. Stateside duty included three tours in San Antonio, Texas, and one in Orlando, Fla.

He married Brenda J. Harris in December of 1955 at Luton, Bedfordshire, England. The marriage ended later. To this union one daughter, Lorraine, and one son, Glenn, were born.

After his Air Force retirement, Leonard attended trade school in Orlando, Fla. He worked for Sutherland Printing Company in Montezuma from 1976 to 1986. He was a resident at Lake Ponderosa from 1976 until 2008.

Leonard enjoyed music, reading, photography, gardening and outdoor activities. He was a member of the American Legion Post 169 in Montezuma and a life-time member of the Air Force Sergeant's Association.

He was preceded in death by both of his parents, and two brothers, Robert and William Higginbotham.

Leonard is survived by one daughter, Lorraine Kotara of San Antonio, Texas; and his son, Glenn (Tammy) Higginbotham of Franklin, Va. Also six grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, two nephews and one niece. Of special mention is his best friend and companion of many years, Betty Anderson, and her extended family.



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