Keith Johnson

Keith Johnson, 84, of Grinnell, formerly of New Sharon, died Monday, May 11, 2009 at Mercy Medical Center in Des Moines.

A memorial service will be held at Harden Funeral Home in New Sharon on Friday, May 15. Memorials may be made to the Alzheimer's Association or the American Heart Association.

The son of Leonard and Ellen Marie Johnson, he was born March 7, 1925 in Taintor. He graduated from New Sharon High School in 1942. On March 28, 1943, he was united in marriage with Mary Christina Finnegan of South Attleboro, Mass. They moved to New Sharon in 1947 before settling in Des Moines where they lived for 25 years. They retired to Lake Ponderosa in 1987, then built a home in Grinnell in 1997.

He was a life-time member of the West Liberty Church of Christ as well as a member of the West Madison Church of Christ, a veteran of the United States Navy and worked for 45 years for the United States Postal Service. He was an avid amateur radio operator for over 50 years with friends across the world, operating under the call sign of W0[zero]HHH. He also had a passion for fishing and restoring antique farm equipment.

Mary, his wife of 63 years, died in 2006. In 2007 he was united in marriage with Laura Elizabeth Williams.

He is survived by his wife Laura Elizabeth of Grinnell; his daughter Sandi Johnson of Clive and his sons Michael Johnson of Brandon, Fla., George Johnson of Norwalk and Eric Johnson of Cedar Rapids; 13 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his wife Mary, his parents; his brothers George and Laverne; a daughter Sharon K. Phippen and a son Keith L. Johnson.
Keith M. Johnson, 84

Keith Johnson, 84, of Grinnell and formerly of New Sharon, passed away Monday, May 11, 2009, at Mercy Medical Center in Des Moines. A memorial service was held at Harden Funeral Home in New Sharon on Friday, May 15, at 1:30 p.m. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Alzheimer's Association or the American Heart Association.

Keith M. Johnson, son of Leonard and Ellen Marie Johnson, was born on March 7, 1925, in Taintor. He graduated from New Sharon High School in 1942. On March 28, 1943, Keith was united in marriage with Mary Christina Pluymen of South Attleboro, Mass. They moved to New Sharon in 1947, before settling in Des Moines, where they lived for 25 years. They retired to Lake Punderson in 1987, and then built a home in Grinnell in 1997. Keith was a lifetime member of the West Liberty church of Christ, as well as a member of the West Madison church of Christ, a veteran of the United States Navy, and worked for 25 years for the United States Postal Service. Keith was an avid amateur radio operator for over 50 years, with friends across the world, operating under the call sign of W0(zeno)HHI. He also had a passion for fishing and restoring antique farm equipment. Mary, his wife of 63 years, passed away in 2006. In 2007, he wed Laura Elizabeth Williams.

His memory is honored by his wife, Laura Elizabeth of Grinnell; his children, and their spouses, daughter, Sundi (Quentin) Johnson of Clive, sons, Michael (Janet) Johnson of Haddon, Fla., George (Andrea) Johnson of Norwalk, and Eric Johnson of Cedar Rapids; 13 grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren, and a son-in-law, Gary Phippen of Tukla, Okla.

Keith was preceded in death by his wife, Mary; his parents; brothers, George and Laverne; a daughter, Sharon K. Phippen; and a son, Keith L. Johnson.