Floyd Junior Pugh

An interment service for the late Floyd Junior Pugh, 88, of Sedalia, Mo., formerly of Grinnell, will be held Saturday, June 13, 2009, at 11 a.m. at Ivy Hill Cemetery in Malcom.

Officiating as chaplain will be Mike Mistle, Grinnell veterans’ ceremonial commander, who will direct a brief ceremony, with full military honors.

Family members and friends are welcome to participate in the ceremony by offering memories, thoughts and prayers.


His family will receive friends Saturday, March 21, from 3 to 5 p.m. in the Common Room of Calvary Episcopal Church in Sedalia. After cremation, burial will take place in Ivy Hill Cemetery in Malcom at a later date. Memorials may be made to Calvary Episcopal Church in care of McLaughlin Funeral Chapel. Condolences may be offered online at www.mclaughlinfuneralchapel.com.

He was born Dec. 31, 1920, in Grinnell, the son of Floyd Raymond and Lillian Martha Appleby Pugh. On April 12, 1947 at St. Stephen’s Episcopal Church in Newton, he was united in marriage with Anne Elizabeth Copley, who survives of the home.

He was raised and educated in Grinnell. After graduation, he attended Parsons College in Fairfield. His college career was put on hold at the bombing of Pearl Harbor. He enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps (which later became the United State Air Force) on Aug. 6, 1942, in Des Moines. His flying career started as a young boy when he saved his newspaper money and took a ride in a Ford Tri-motor airplane. During his career as a pilot in the USAF he flew B-24s, B-25s, B-29s, B-36s, B-47s and B-52s. He logged over 10,000 flying hours. From 1970 until his retirement Sept. 1, 1972, he served as Base Commander at Whitman Air Force Base. His many awards included Distinguished Flying Cross, Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal with Three Oak Leaf Clusters, Presidential Unit Citation with One Oak Leaf Cluster, and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal.

After retirement, he received the Bachelor of Science degree in Business from Columbia College, Columbia, Mo.

He was a member of Calvary Episcopal Church in Sedalia. He was an avid golfer. He loved American history, especially the Civil War. After retiring from the Air Force, he managed the Sedalia Airport and was instrumental in development of a new terminal, and also worked at Temple-Callison for a few years.

Surviving are his wife of nearly 62 years, Anne Pugh; two daughters, Martha Pugh, of Fayette, Mo., and Kitt Woods of Excelsior Springs, Mo; five grandchildren; three great grandchildren; one sister, Mary Ann Harbin of Macon, Ga., nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers, Foster and Carl, and a sister, Erma.