

Donald E. Beach, 83

Donald E. Beach, age 83, of Grinnell, died Monday, March 7, 2011, at Grinnell Regional Medical Center.

A graveside service was held at 11 a.m., Thursday, March 10, at Garrett Cemetery near Delta, with pastor John Epperson officiating.

Memorials can be designated to Grinnell Regional Hospice, 106 4th Avenue, Grinnell, Iowa 50112. Memories and condolences may be shared with the family at www.smithfh.com.

Don was born on Aug. 31, 1927, in Martelle, to Earl Raymond Beach and Vera Maude Kester. He was raised and educated in Mt. Vernon and Montezuma, respectively.

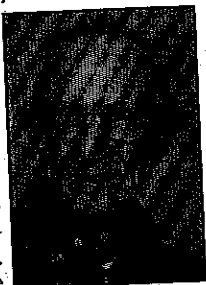
He enlisted in the United States Navy on March 19, 1945, and he served during World War II as a Seaman First Class on the USS Santa Fe and the USS Xanthus in the areas of China, Japan and Hawaii. He was honorably discharged from active service on June 18, 1949.

He was united in marriage to Elinor Parkhurst on Nov. 17, 1948, in Grinnell. To this union three children were born, Alan, Edward and Linda. The couple lived and farmed near Montezuma for a short time and then moved to Grinnell. Don was employed as an ambulance driver in Grinnell and he worked for the Poweshiek County Road Department as a mechanic and a truck driver for several years.

Don was a loving husband, father and grandfather, who always provided for his family. His enjoyments included fishing, camping, grilling, maintaining a beautiful yard, and helping Elinor tend to her rose garden.

Don is survived by his wife of 62 years, Elinor Beach, of Grinnell; his children, Alan (Katie) Beach of Salt Lake City, Utah, Edward (Linda) Beach of Buckeye, Ariz., and Linda Berndt of Newton; nine grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Don was preceded in death by his parents; and his granddaughter, Courtney Berndt, in 1993.



PCCR 3-16-11

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Visitation will be held from 12 p.m. until 5 p.m. on Wednesday at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell. Memorials can be designated to Grinnell Regional Hospice, 106 4th Avenue, Grinnell, Iowa 50112. Memories and condolences may be shared with the family at www.smithfh.com.

PCCR 3-9-11

Beach Donald E