Robert William Fontinel


A funeral service will be held Monday, Jan. 24, at 10:30 a.m. at Kruse-Phillips Funeral Home in Tama with interment following in St. Patrick’s Cemetery in Tama. Visitation will be held Sunday, Jan. 23, from 4 to 7 p.m. at Kruse-Phillips Funeral Home.

Robert W. Fontinel


A funeral service was held Monday, Jan. 24, 2011, at Kruse-Phillips Funeral Home in Tama with Joe Behounek, deacon, officiating. Interment followed in St. Patrick’s Cemetery, Tama.

Memorials may be made to St. Vincent de Paul, 2050-C Chamblee Tucker Road, Atlanta GA 30341.

He was born Dec. 31, 1932, in Grinnell, the son of Frank and Lida Ruttan Fontinel. He graduated from Grinnell High School in 1950. He was united in marriage with Helen Darlene Baustian on July 6, 1952, in Grinnell Methodist Church.

He first was engaged in the profession of farming, later working as a home builder/contractor for Wick Homes. In addition, he worked as a realtor both in Iowa and in Georgia, finishing his career as sales manager in several industries, then retiring in December, 2009, from ACOSTA Sales and Marketing.

He was a member of St. Patrick’s Catholic Parish in Tama from 1963-1989; St. Cyril’s Catholic Parish in Houston, Texas, from 1989 to 1997, and Prince of Peace Catholic Parish in Flowery Branch, Ga., since 1997, and a 4th Degree Knight in the Knights of Columbus. He had served as Tama County soil commissioner, director of R.I.P. REC board in Brooklyn; on the board of directors of Central Iowa Power Company from 1986 to 1989; and director of Farmers Mutual Insurance in Traer from 1983 to 1989. He also was a 50-year member of Chester Royal Grange.

He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Helen Fontinel of Buford, Ga.; his sons and daughters, Aaron Fontinel of Boca Raton, Fla., Rose Ann Fontinel of Manchester, Mo., Rhea Fontinel of Eau Claire, Wis., Barbara Fontinel of Wayne N.J., Lance Fontinel of Monroe, Ga., and Lucia Fontinel of Malden, Mass.; 11 grandchildren; and his sisters and brothers, Marge Breya of Toledo, Duane Fontinel of Benton, Ark., Dennis Fontinel of Toledo, Marsha Wolf of Cedar Rapids and Kim Fontinel of Tama. He was preceded in death by his parents; his son Clinton Fontinel; his bother Harold Fontinel; and his sister Carolyn Fontinel in infancy.