James L. Kerr

James L. Kerr, 55, of Grinnell, died on Friday, March 25, 2011, in Grinnell. A private family graveside service was held Wednesday at Hazelwood Cemetery in Grinnell with Rev. Donald Johnston, pastor of the Calvary Baptist Church in Grinnell, officiating. A veterans ceremony was conducted by the Grinnell Veterans Memorial Unit.

Memorials may be directed to the James L. Kerr Memorial and sent in care of the Smith Funeral Home, P.O. Box 368, Grinnell, Iowa 50112.

James was born on Sept. 14, 1955, in Grinnell to Francis and Arthith Byers Kerr Sr. He was raised in Grinnell and was a member of the Grinnell High School Class of 1973. He worked for the Hy-Vee Food Store during his high school years. On Feb. 3, 1975, he entered the United States Army and served until October of 1976.

On July 18, 1975, he was married to Marianne Wheeler in Grinnell. The couple lived in various central Iowa cities. He was a truck driver for many years.

He enjoyed music, playing his guitar and spending time with his family.

Survivors include his children, Cory Kerr and Tina Myers, both of Cedar Rapids; three grandchildren; three brothers, Francis Kerr Jr. of Grinnell, Ron Kerr of Brooklyn and Brian Kerr of St. Louis, Mo.; and five sisters, Judy Meythaler of Montezuma, Linda Kerr of Grinnell, Eileen Kerr of Des Moines, Theresa Stockdale of Grinnell and Rhonda Foster of Altoona.

He was preceded in death by his parents; two brothers, Garry and Steve Kerr; and one grandson.