Verle "Duane" Muckler, 84, of Bickford Cottage in Marshalltown, formerly of rural Gilman, passed at Bickford Cottage in Marshalltown surrounded by his family. The family would like to give special thanks to the people at Bickford who provided exceptional care in Duane's final months.

Graveside services will be held on Saturday, November 26, 2011, at 10:30 a.m. at Rose Hill Memorial Gardens. Visitation will be held on Friday, November 25, 2011, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the Mitchell Family Funeral Home in Marshalltown, Iowa. In lieu of flowers memorials may be directed to Bickford Cottage of Marshalltown, American Cancer Society, Alzheimer's Association, or Iowa River Hospice. For condolences or questions please visit www.mitchellfh.com. Mitchell Family Funeral Home is caring for Duane and his family. Phone 641-444-1234.

Verle Duane Muckler was born on June 6, 1927, in Grinnell, Iowa. He was the son of Verle Albert and Elizabeth Christena (Ahrens) Muckler. Duane attended school in the Gilman area graduating with the Gilman High School class of 1945. He served our country honorably during WWII with the Navy in 1945-46. In 1949 in Dunbar, Iowa, Duane was united in marriage to Dolores Jean Anderson. They made their home on the century family farm that he loved west of Gilman. He enjoyed farming the land until his retirement in 1989. Duane had been a member of Gilman Community Church and the Farm Bureau. He enjoyed spending time with his grandchildren on the farm, traveling in his retirement with his wife Dolores, and bowling in leagues in Marshalltown.

Left to cherish his memory are his sons Richard (Julie) Muckler of Clive, Iowa and Kim (Janine) Muckler of Marshalltown, Iowa; his grandchildren Adam, Beth and Kyle Muckler; his sister Mildred (Richard) Masteller; and his sister-in-law Frances Anderson.

Duane was preceded in death by his wife, Dolores, in 2001; parents Verle and Elizabeth; step-father Elgin Fanton; brothers-in-law Harmon (Doris) Anderson, Joel (Ruth Ann) Anderson; and Orville Anderson; and sisters-in-law Hazel (Raymond) Nicholl and Dorothy (Richard) Doyle.