Leon Wilson

Leon Wilson, 74, of Grinnell, died Sunday, Oct. 16, 2011, at Grinnell Regional Medical Center.

A funeral service was held Wednesday, Oct. 19, at the Grinnell Christian Church with interment at Hazelwood Cemetery in Grinnell.

Friends may call at Smith Funeral Home beginning at 12 noon on Tuesday, and the family will be present at the funeral home from 6 to 8 p.m. on Tuesday.

Memorials may be directed to Grinnell Regional Hospice.

Leon was born Jan. 30, 1937, in Grinnell, the son of Paul and Imo Dell McCaslin Wilson. He was raised on the family farm in the Rock Creek area and graduated from Grinnell High School with the Class of 1955. He attended Iowa State University and later was inducted into the United States Army. He served with the Army for two years and was honorable discharged in 1962.

On Oct. 20, 1962, he married Wilma Jean Brod in Gilman. The couple lived in LaCrosse, Wis., where he worked as a blockman for Allis Chalmers Company. In 1970, the couple returned to the family farm in the Rock Creek neighborhood and operated a grain and livestock farm. He also worked as a traffic manager for the Farmhand Company and as a dispatcher for Alliant Energy Company. He retired in 1998.

Leon had served on the city council in Gilman and was Exalted Ruler of the Grinnell Elks Lodge. He was also a member of the Masonic Lodge, the Farm Bureau and the Lion Clubs in Gilman and Grinnell.

He was an avid reader and enjoyed photography. His family was very important to him and he enjoyed holiday meals and Sunday family gatherings.

He is survived by his wife, Wilma Wilson of Grinnell; his children, Sandra Maron of Elk River, Minn., Phillip Wilson of Lone Tree, Colo. and Gregory Wilson of Edmond, Okla.; 12 grandchildren; and one sister, Kathryn Larsen of Grinnell.

He was preceded in death by his parents and one brother, Clair Wilson.
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A funeral service will be held at 10:30 a.m., Wednesday, Oct. 19, at the Grinnell Christian Church with the Rev. John Epperson officiating. Music will be provided by Gavin Lang, Jason Faust and Natalie Faust. Casket Bearers will be Sandra Maron, Phil Wilson, Greg Wilson, Trent Wilson, Jason Faust, Jeff Faust, Anna Faust and Joel Sears. Honorary Bearers will be Harry Maron, Diane Stewart, Stephanie Wilson, Natalie Faust, Zach Maron, Rachel Maron, Max Wilson, Shane Wilson, Cooper Wilson, Rachel Stewart, Sarah Stewart, Megan Wilson and Jacob Wilson. Internment will be at Hazelwood Cemetery in Grinnell with military honors.

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