Robert J. Kriegel

Robert J. Kriegel, 77, of Grinnell, died on Thursday, January 12, 2012, at his home.

A celebration of his life was held Monday, January 16, at Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell with the Rev. Len Eberhart, pastor of the Grinnell United Methodist Church, officiating. Interment with military rites followed at Hazelwood Cemetery in Grinnell.

Memorials may be directed to the Robert J. Kriegel Memorial Fund, sent in care of the Smith Funeral Home, PO Box 368, Grinnell, Iowa 50112. Memories and condolences may be shared with the family at www.smithfh.com.

Bob was born on July 27, 1934, at St. Francis Hospital in Grinnell. He was adopted and raised by Albert and Audrey Niswander Kriegel. He was raised in Brooklyn and Grinnell, and graduated from Grinnell High School in 1953.

He honorably served his country in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War. He was honorably discharged from active duty on Sept. 30, 1957, at Lincoln Air Force Base in Nebraska, and then served in the U.S. Air Force Reserves until 1961.

He was united in marriage with Beverly A. Munsop on June 7, 1958, at the United Methodist Church in Lincoln, Neb. The couple lived in Des Moines shortly after their marriage and Bob worked at New Holland Manufacturing in Des Moines. The couple then moved to Grinnell and Bob worked at Donaldson Company in Grinnell for 35 years. He also worked for Jake Barnes at the Phillips 66 gas station for several years. After his retirement, he worked at Bates Flowers in Grinnell.

Bob was a member of the Grinnell United Methodist Church. He loved his family and he enjoyed attending car shows, NASCAR races, attending his grandchildren’s activities, and having coffee with his friends.

Bob is survived by his wife of 53 years, Beverly Kriegel of Grinnell; his children, Bob Kriegel, Jr. of Grinnell, Brenda Kim of Columbia, Mo., and Brenae Smith of Kansas City, Mo.; and two grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his brother, Marvin Kriegel; and his step-father, Clifford McCain.