Gerald Ross Adams, 72

Gerald Ross "Jerry" Adams, 72, of Montezuma, died on Monday, March 12, 2012, at the Marshalltown Medical and Surgical Center.

A memorial gathering with his family was held from 5 to 7 p.m., Friday, March 16, at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell. A Celebration of Life service was held immediately following the memorial gathering, led by his grandson Jason Roethier. Honorary bearers were Brian Brickles, Brad Roth, Nick O'Halloran, Cody Frahm, Kelle Alward, Brandi Roethier and Bethany Jacoby. Burial will be held at a later date at Hazelwood Cemetery in Grinnell.

Memorial donations may be directed to the Iowa Hospice in Marshalltown.

Jerry was born Aug. 14, 1939 in Des Moines, to Harold O. and Bernice Barr Adams. He was raised in Des Moines and graduated from East High School in 1957. He served with the United States Army following his high school education.

On June 25, 1961, he was married to Judith Ann Crawford in Des Moines. The couple lived in Burlington, and later moved to California. He worked as an electrician and for Pacific Scientific Company. The couple returned to Iowa and resided at Lake Ponderosa near Montezuma. They later divorced.

He worked for Forbes Office Supply in Grinnell. While working there he met, and later married, Penelope J. "Penny" Jacoby. The couple was married on Sept. 1, 1989 at Lake Ponderosa. He also worked in maintenance at Meskwaki Casino.

Jerry loved to fish at Lake Ponderosa. When not fishing, he could be found speeding along in his golf cart, doing something on the computer or talking up a storm with whoever was available at the time. He loved to take Penny out on the lake for a cruise on the pontoon.

He is survived by his daughter, Dalaina (Mary) Gobeli of Colfax; his step children, Kimberly Jacoby of Grinnell, Bridget (Mark) Ringenberg of Oskaloosa, Traci (Warran) Frahm of Victor, Jennifer (Mike) O'Halloran of Tualatin Ore., Jeanne (Steve) Roethier of Cedar Rapids, and Rick (Karla) Jacoby of Grinnell; 21 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; one sister, Joyce Bradden from near Tuscan, Ariz.; and two brothers, Harold Adams of Des Moines and Bruce Adams from near Minneapolis, Minn.

He was preceded in death by his wife Penny; his parents; and one brother, David J. Adams, in infancy.
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