Robert P. McClure

Robert P. McClure, 74, of Glendale, Ariz., and formerly of Dubuque, died Saturday, March 3, 2012, in Glendale.

A graveside service will be held at 2 p.m., Friday, March 9, at Hazelwood Cemetery in Grinnell, with Pastor Matthew Collins of Hope Church in Dubuque officiating.

Memories and condolences may be shared with his family at www.smithfh.com. Memorials will be given to the American Diabetes Association.

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Robert was born on March 13, 1937, in Delta, Iowa, to Eugene and Lillian Huff McClure. His family moved several times throughout his youth and he was raised in Iowa, Illinois, California and New York. He graduated from high school in New York. He then attended Stanford University in Palo Alto and Northwestern University in Chicago, where he earned his Bachelor of Arts and Master's degrees.

Robert spent much of his life educating youth, teaching English, speech and debate at Dubuque Senior High School, North Kossuth High School,

Sidney High School and Clark Community High School. He also taught college-level speech and communications at Salisbury State University in Salisbury, Md., Des Moines Area Community College in Des Moines, and Northeast Iowa Community College in Mason City. He was also a speech and debate advisor for the Governor of Iowa, Terry Branstad, in his first election campaign.

In his retirement, Robert wrote an opinion editorial column for the Dubuque Telegraph Herald under the title "My View." He wrote fiction and non-fiction, including novels, poetry and short stories. He enjoyed gardening, camping, board games, and providing walking sticks as gifts to others.

Robert is survived by his children, Paul Lowrey of San Francisco, Calif., Eugene McClure of South Lyon, Mich., and Michelle Schulte of Dubuque; four grandchildren; and his sister, Ruth Snell of San Luis Obispo, Calif.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his first wife, Sue Gillen; his second wife, Linda Turner; and his brother, Lloyd McClure.