

Obituaries

9-30-1987

VERNER WILLIAM BOLEN

Verner W. Bolen, 87, died September 21, 1987, at the St. Francis Manor Nursing Home in Grinnell of complications due to a stroke.

Funeral Services were held Thursday, Sept. 24, at the Grinnell Christian Church with the Rev. John Epperson, officiating. Organist was Mrs. Jolene Jones and vocalists were Roger Kendall, Lorna Lang, and Susan Wheat. Pallbearers were Ben Bolen, Bruce Bolen, Jr., David Bolen, Jim Pech, Catherine Smalley, and Tom Smalley. Burial was in the I.O.O.F. Cemetery at Brooklyn.

The son of William and Sylvia Lamb Bolen, Verner was born on May 18, 1900 in Poweshiek County. He attended the country school #9 in Madison Township.

He was married to Carrie Graham on October 18, 1922, at Des Moines, Iowa. Following their marriage they farmed in Poweshiek County before moving to Grinnell in 1945. While farming he also worked as a salesman for the Pfister Seed Corn Company and also worked as a carpenter. During W.W. II he worked at the Defense Plant at Ankeny. He was a former member of the Elks B.P.O. Lodge No. 1266 and a Charter Member of the Grinnell Christian Church.

Verner is survived by his wife, Carrie; his children: Dora Pech of Peoria, Ariz., Don Polen of Houston, Tex., Bruce Bolen of Tama, Ia., and Ann Smalley of Elmhurst, Ill.; 13 grandchildren and 30 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents; and 3 brothers and a sister: Michael, Ephraim, Gerald, and Gladys.

Verner Bolen services held

Verner W. Bolen, 87, of 1528 Tenth Ave., Grinnell, died of a stroke Monday, Sept. 21, at St. Francis Manor.

Funeral services were conducted at 10:20 a.m. Thursday at the Grinnell Christian Church, with the Rev. John Epperson officiating. Organist was Jolene Jones, and vocalist was Roger Kendall. Pallbearers were his grandchildren, Bruce Bolen Jr., David Bolen, Ben Bolen, Jim Pech, Tom Smalley and Catherine Smalley. Burial was in the I.O.O.F. Cemetery, Brooklyn, with the Smith Funeral Home in charge of arrangements. Memorials may be left at the funeral home.

The son of William and Sylvia Lamb Bolen, he was born May 18, 1900, in Poweshiek County. He attended rural school.

On Oct. 28, 1922, he was married to Carrie Gramam in Des Moines. The couple farmed in Poweshiek County, moving to Grinnell in 1945. Mr. Bolen represented Pfister Hybrid Seed Corn Co. from 1937 to 1971. He had also worked as a carpenter and during World War II worked at a defense plant in Ankeny. He was a charter member of the Grinnell Christian Church and was a former member of the Elks Lodge.

He is survived by his wife; two daughters, Dora Pech of Peoria, Ariz., and Ann Smalley of Elmhurst, Ill.; two sons, Donald of Houston, Texas, and Bruce of Tama; 13 grandchildren; and 30 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by three brothers and one sister.

Bolen Verner William