Obituaries

Robert R. Burns Jr., 81

Robert R. "Bob" Burns Jr., 81, of Mason City, died Monday, Sept. 22, 2008, at the Muse Norris Hospice Inpatient Unit.

Funeral services were held at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 27, at Faith Baptist Church, with Pastor Steven Cox of Clear Lake Regular Baptist Church and Pastor Jeff Dahlin of Praise Community Church. Interment was held in Memorial Park Cemetery with Veterans Honors conducted by the Mason City Veterans Memorial Association. Memorials may be directed to the Robert R. Burns Jr. memorial fund in care of the family.

Robert was born Jan. 3, 1927, in Elm Creek, Neb., the son of Robert R. Sr. and Pearl (Case) Burns. He attended school in Brooklyn, and graduated from there in 1945. He entered into the Army in 1951, and served his country until he was honorably discharged in 1953.

He was married to Joy Lathrop on April 14, 1962, in Kirksville, Mo., and to this union four children were born. Bob worked as a land surveyor for the Iowa D.O.T. for thirty plus years until his retirement. After retirement, Bob started his own private land surveying business which he ran until 1999.

He enjoyed nature, bird watching, gardening, flowers, listening to southern gospel music, and also playing board games. He also liked camping with his family in his younger years, and enjoyed traveling the country. Bob cherished his family and the time he spent with them. He will be dearly missed by all who knew and loved him.

He is survived by his wife, Joy, of Mason City; children, Ginny Kruger and husband, Terry, of Fort Dodge, Vicki Ream and husband, Keith, of Plymouth, Robert G. Burns and wife, Martha, of Clear Lake, and Randy Burns and wife, Tom, of Rockwell; eight grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren; brothers, Norman Burns and wife, Maxine, of Brooklyn, Gerald Burns and wife, Mary, of Murfreesboro, Tenn.; sister-in-law, Joanna Lasof and husband, Mark, of Vancouver, Wash.; mother-in-law, Della Brungardt and husband, Henry, of Mason City; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; father-in-law; one great-grandson; two brothers; and two sisters.

Arrangements were with Major Erickson Funeral Home, Mason City, www.majorericksonfuneralhome.com.