Gerald L. "Jerry" Deppe, 65, of Bandera, Texas and formerly of Grinnell, died Oct. 12, 2008, at the Audie L. Murphy Memorial Veterans Hospital in San Antonio, Texas.

Funeral services were held at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 18, at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell with Pastor Ernest Ruben, officiating. Pallbearers were Leif Eric Deppe, Joe Sawyer, Alexander Sawyer, Jon White, Shannon Deppe, and Everett Ruben. Burial was in Rock Creek Cemetery in rural Jasper County.

Memorial contributions may be directed to the National Kidney Foundation.

Jerry was born on Aug. 27, 1943, in Newton, to Albert R. and Addie McDowell Deppe. He was raised by Albert and Virginia Cann Deppe in the Rock Creek area, and was a 1961 graduate of Grinnell High School. He served during the Vietnam War and was a veteran of United States Air Force during the Vietnam War and served additionally in the United States Army Reserve for many years.

Jerry was employed as an industrial electrician at Armstrong Tire Company in Des Moines, and retired in 1999. He was married to Luevena Ruben on June 21, 1996, in San Antonio, and the couple had made their home in Bandera since 1999. While there, he was a member of the Walker Memorial Baptist Church.

His hobbies included hunting, fishing, reading, and sharing his time with his grandchildren. He was very mechanical and was often called upon by family and friends to help fix things.

Survivors include his wife, Luevena Deppe of Bandera; his mother, Virginia Deppe of Grinnell; three sons, Leif Eric Deppe of Grinnell, Joe Sawyer of Carlisle, and Shannon Deppe of Grinnell; two step-children, Jonathan White of Mitchellville and Deena White of Des Moines; three brothers, Laird, Charles, and Ronald Deppe of Grinnell; two sisters, Linda Lester of Grinnell and Patricia Skelton of San Antonio; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his father, Albert Deppe and birth mother, Addie Elliott.