Lawrence Fleming, 85, of Montezuma, died Saturday, Sept. 29, 2012. Funeral services will begin at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 3, at the Holland-Coble Funeral Home in Montezuma. Memorial contributions may be directed to the Grinnell Regional Hospice or Shriner's Hospital KAABA Chapter of Davenport. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.hollandcoblefuneralhome.com.

John Lawrence Fleming was born on May 7, 1927 near Taintor, the son of John Lloyd and Phoebe C. Sheesley Fleming. Lawrence was graduated from Montezuma High School in 1944 then enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1945. He served in World War II as a Navy Seaman. After being honorably discharged, he returned home and began work as a farm hand for a short period. Later, Lawrence began working for Poweshiek County Maintenance Department. After 41 years, he retired in 1989.

Lawrence married Allene Plate in Nashua, Iowa on May 8, 1954. He enjoyed raising his family and attending all of their activities and those of his grandchildren. His great sense of humor was a valuable lesson to them all. He especially enjoyed watching high school football and volunteered on the chain gang for football games for 25 years. Lawrence played solitaire to keep his mind sharp.

Lawrence played solitaire to keep his mind sharp. He loved attending the Iowa State Fair and watching Iowa Hawkeye games. He was also honored to be a part of an Honor Flight to Washington, D.C. He was an active member of the American Legion, Masonic Lodge, Eastern Star.

Lawrence is survived by his wife, Allene Fleming of Montezuma; three sons, Gregory (Diana) Fleming of Montezuma; Ron Richman of Skiatook, Okla.; Rick (Pam) Richman of Tigard, Ore.; his daughter, Karen Baethke of Montezuma; and a son-in-law, Bill Thomas of What Cheer; 19 grandchildren and 31 great grandchildren and other relatives and his many friends.