Clarence A. Sears, 73, of Gilman, died Tuesday, Oct. 2, 2012, at the Mayflower Health Care Center in Grinnell. A celebration of his life will be held at 1 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 6, at Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell with Rev. Craig Smith, pastor of the Grinnell Christian Church, officiating. Music was provided by Lorna Lang, pianist, and Michelle Huntroe, vocalist. Casket bearers were Gary Sears, Linda Sears, Lisa Sears, Nick Doud, Gina Doud, Julie Doud and Todd Lenz. Honorary bearers were Dwight and Sue Lenz, Ron Johnson, Steve and Janice Lovig, Pat Paustian, Mark and Marcia Patterson, Scott and Jean Koffin, and Jeff and Lisa Agan. Serving as flower bearers were Ray and Marlene Williams and Less and Kelly Meyer. Interment will be at Chester Cemetery north of Grinnell. Visitation will begin at 2 p.m. Friday at Smith Funeral Home with the family present to greet friends from 3:30 until 7:30 p.m. Friday evening.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be designated to the Gilman First Responders or Grinnell Regional Hospice and sent in care of the Smith Funeral Home PO Box 368, Grinnell, Iowa 50112. Memories and condolences may be shared with his family at www.smithfh.com.

Clarence A. Sears was born June 29, 1939, in Grinnell to Anson Adelbert and Anna Elizabeth Paul Sears. He was raised in the Gilman area and attended Grinnell public schools. Clarence was a graduate of Gilman High School and he attended Iowa State University.

On June 13, 1964, he was united in marriage with Judy Lenora Doud at the United Methodist Church in Grinnell. The couple lived on a farm near Gilman and he was engaged in farming until his health failed.

He was a member of the Grinnell Christian Church and the Charting Club, and he was active in 4-H.

Survivors include his wife, Judy Sears of Gilman; one son, Gary Sears of Searsboro; one daughter, Lisa Sears of Gilman; three grandchildren; five great grandchildren; and one brother, Paul Sears of Grinnell.

He was preceded in death by his parents and one sister, Janet Allnut.