James "Jim" Vanderveer, 64, of Grinnell, died on Thursday, Sept. 6, 2012, at Methodist Medical Center in Des Moines.

A visitation will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 12, 2012, from 12 noon to 8 p.m., with the family present from 5 to 7 p.m. at the funeral home. Military rites will be held at 7 p.m.

A private family burial will be held at a later date.

Memorial contributions may be directed to the Grinnell Veteran's Cremation Unit and sent in care of the Smith Funeral Home, PO Box 368, Grinnell, Iowa 50112.

James was born in Grinnell on March 26, 1948, the son of Hale Foster and Estella Vanderveer. He graduated from Grinnell High School and then joined the United States Army. He was stationed in South Korea during the Vietnam War. During that time, he met the love of his life, Hye, and they were married on June 10, 1970.

He was a welder at Donaldson's and a member of the United Auto Workers. He retired in 2010, after just shy of 40 years. He enjoyed drag racing, classic cars, 60s rock-n-roll music and old movies like westerns — especially those with John Wayne. He loved to mow the lawn on his riding mower.

James is survived by his wife of 42 years, Hye Vanderveer of Grinnell; his two sons, James Vanderveer of Grinnell and John Vanderveer of Des Moines; and his close friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents.