Charles E. Adkins

Charles E. Adkins, 82, of Montezuma, died Wednesday, Jan. 23, 2013, at the Iowa City VA Health Care System in Iowa City.

A celebration of his life will be held at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, Jan. 26, at Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell with Pastor John Bushong, Community Hope Church of Montezuma, officiating. Interment will be at West Liberty Cemetery near Montezuma.

Visitation will be held prior to the service on Saturday beginning at 9 a.m. at Smith Funeral Home.

Memorial contributions may be designated to the Charles E. Adkins Memorial Fund and mailed to care of Smith Funeral Home, PO Box 366, Grinnell, Iowa 50112. Memories and condolences may be shared with his family at www.smithfh.com.

Charles was born on Aug. 9, 1930, in Grinnell to Granville LeRoy Adkins and Clara Viola (Stewart) Adkins. He was raised near Searboro and graduated from Searboro High School with the class of 1948.

He honorably served in the United States Air Force as a staff sergeant. He served two years in the Philippines before his combat training and then was a mechanic in the Air Force for 21 years. He received the Good Conduct medal, Air Crew Members badge and the National Defense medal.

He was united in marriage with Carol Helmer on Aug. 1, 1976, in Vancouver, Wash. Following their marriage, the couple resided in Searboro and he worked for the Lynnville-Sully Community School District as a janitor.

He was united in marriage with Carol R. Hehler Aug. 1, 1976, in Vancouver, Wash. Following their marriage, the couple resided in Searboro and he worked for the Lynnville-Sully Community School District as a janitor.

Charles dearly loved his family, especially his great grandchildren, McKenna and Mallory Warden. For the past 15 years his family has gathered together every Sunday to eat breakfast together. He was an outdoorsman who enjoyed fishing and hunting rabbits and squirrels. His other enjoyment was watching NASCAR races, the Speed Channel and Iowa Hawkeyes sports on television, caring for his beagle dogs and gathering with his family for breakfast every Sunday.

Charles is survived by his children, Charyl (Bret) Warden of Montezuma, and Greg Floyd of Montezuma; two great grandchildren; and his siblings, Jerry Beyrer of Grinnell, Don Adkins of Darlington, Mo., Russ Adkins of Pott Grove, Mo., Bruce Adkins of Cedar Falls, Marilyn Elliott of Winter Springs, Fla., and Richard Adkins of Arkansas.

He was preceded in death by his parents; and his wife, Carol Adkins.

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