Gerald Byerly, 89, formerly of Deep River, passed away Saturday morning, April 13, 2013, at Brooklyn Community Estates in Brooklyn. Funeral services were held at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, April 16, at the Holland-Coble Funeral Home in Montezuma. Burial was at Brooklyn Memorial Cemetery in Brooklyn. Memorial contributions may be made to the Poweshiek Animal League Shelter (PALS) or Midwest Ambulance. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.hollandcobelfuneralhomes.com. Holland-Coble Funeral Home of Montezuma was in charge of arrangements.

Gerald Robert Byerly, son of Kendly "KC" and Elsie (Foreman) Byerly, was born on Dec. 4, 1923 in rural Guernsey. He attended country school in the Osceola and Victor areas. Oct. 3, 1947, Gerald was united in marriage to Marjorie Johnson in Barnes City. To this union three children were born, Marvin, Bonita and Dixie. Gerald started his farming career in the Brooklyn and Guernsey areas before moving to the Deep River area in 1952. He farmed and had a dairy herd of around 20 cattle for over 40 years before an injury caused him to retire in 2005. Even after retirement, Gerald still found himself lending a helping hand on the farm. He enjoyed driving his antique tractors in parades, going to the What Cheer Opera House. He enjoyed woodworking at the What Cheer Flea Market.

Gerald is survived by his wife of 65 years, Marjorie of Grinnell; three children, Marvin Byerly, Bonita (John) Bartachek and Dixie (Doug) Hansen; seven grandchildren, Dawn (Bryan) McGlothlin, Phil Bartachek, Nicole (Mac) Dhooge, Brian Bartachek, Chris (Jodi) Hansen, Curt (Holli) Hansen, Craig (Kylee) Hansen; 17 great grandchildren; two brothers, Wayne (Betty) Byerly of Nixa, Mo., and Dale Byerly of Mondovi, Wis.; and a sister, Arlene (Howard) Heinen of Brooklyn. He was preceded in death by his parents and a sister-in-law, Doris Byerly.