Duane R. Johnson



Duane R. Johnson, 84, of Gilman died Feb. 8, 2013, at the Iowa Veterans Home in Marshalltown.

Funeral services are scheduled for 1 p.m. Monday, Feb. 11, at Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell with Rev. Cheryl Ridenour, pastor of the Gilman United Methodist Church and Ron Rice, officiating. Pallbearers will be Nathan and Ty Kelsey, Natasha Waters, Colton Paul, Kevin Johnson, Brandie Flathers and Jennifer Brown. Burial will be in Prairie View Cemetery in Gilman.

Memorial contributions may be directed to the Gilman United Methodist Church.

Duane was born March 6, 1928, in New Sharon, the son of Clovis and Josie Groves Johnson. He was raised in New Sharon and received his education in the New Sharon School District of Wassas Vereinnor the United States Navy during World War II.

On Sept. 28, 1946, he was united in marriage with Audrey Van Cleave, at the Little Brown Church in Nashua. The couple lived in New Sharon and later moved to Gilman in 1971. While in New Sharon he was employed with Bird Lane Farms and then Pamco Industries in Oskaloosa. He owned and operated the Standard Oil Station in Gilman and later drove a truck for Robintech Industries in Grinnell and Holland Plastics in Gilman.

He was a member of the Gilman American Legion and was very active with the Gilman United Methodist Church. He enjoyed refurbishing antique furniture, woodworking and gardening. He always looked forward to coffee time with family and friends.

Survivors include his wife, Audrey, a resident at the Iowa Veterans Home in Marshalltown; four children, Vicki Kelsey of Baxter, Randi Johnson and Rod Johnson of Gilman, and Sheila Paul of Laurel; three sisters, Ilean Whitehead and Ava Jean Stone of New Sharon, and Dixie VerSteegh of Nashville, Ind.; three brothers, Hanley Johnson of New Sharon, Perry Johnson of Loveland, Colo. and Oscar Johnson of Buena Vista, Ark.; seven grandchildren; and five greatgrandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; one son, Ricki Johnson in 1996; and one sister, Phyllis Story.