Arnold Septer, 92, of Grinnell, died Sunday, Feb. 10, 2013, at Grinnell Regional Medical Center with his family by his side.

A funeral service will be held at 11 a.m., Friday, Feb. 15, at the Lynnville Friends Church with the Rev. Dr. Doug Smiley officiating. Interment with military honors will be at West Liberty Cemetery near Montezuma.

Visitation was held Thursday at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell with his family present to greet friends from 2 to 7 p.m. Thursday evening.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be designated in his name to the Wounded Warrior Project and mailed in care of Smith Funeral Home, PO Box 368, Grinnell, Iowa 50112. Memories and condolences may be shared with his family at www.smithfh.com.

Arnold was born the seventh of ten children to William and Jenny Seyer Septer on May 20, 1920, in rural Mahaska County near Taintor. Four days after his parents arrived on Ellis Island, he grew up in rural Jasper and Poweshiek counties and attended Granville Country School and Grinnell High School.

Arnold was drafted in 1942 and honorably served in the U.S. Army during World War II. He trained in Oklahoma and Washington before being shipped to England and served as a wire operator in the European theater. He entered France on D-Day plus 6. He was honorably discharged in 1945 after five weeks at home. He married Jean Surveyor at her parent's home near Grinnell on Oct. 1945. They made their home in rural Poweshiek County, first residing on his parent's farm and later on Jean's parent's farm.

Arnold's family, faith, friends and farming were his life. He loved farming the land, and had a strong work ethic and a strong belief in good fences. His enjoyments included gardening, hunting, fishing, square-dancing, cracking walnuts, playing cards and reading the newspaper.

Arnold is survived by his wife of 67 years, Jean Septer of Grinnell; three daughters, Barbara Glann of Runnells, Patricia Septer of Runnells and Susan Devig of Huxley; and four grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; four brothers, Bill, Rich, Chris and Garret "Shorty"; and five sisters, Tena Uitermarkt, Christina Septer, Margaret Walker, Rek Heemsenbergen, and Minnie Diceman.