Ronald Arvidson, 77, of Grinnell and formerly of Malcom, passed away Monday, September 2, 2013, at the Grinnell Regional Medical Center in Grinnell.

Funeral services were held at 11 a.m., Thursday, Sept. 5, at the Community Hope Church in Montezuma. Burial was in the Jackson Township Cemetery in Montezuma. Memorial contributions may be directed to the American Cancer Society or to the Parkinson’s Disease Foundation (PDF). Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.hollandcoblefuneralhomes.com. Holland-Coble Funeral Home of Montezuma is in charge of arrangements.

Ronald Arvidson, son of Oscar “Emil” and Lois (Hall) Arvidson, was born on February 29, 1936, in Grinnell. Ron grew up in rural Brooklyn, and graduated from Brooklyn High School in 1956. At a young age, Ron was instilled with the values of hard work and dedication to his family. On July 2, 1959, he was united in marriage to his true love, Shirley Harrington. For 54 years they stayed by each other’s side. Whether the task was as big as raising a family or as simple as a trip to the hair salon, they did it together. Ron worked for a while at SIG Manufacturing before taking a job with the State of Iowa Department of Transportation. After 33 dedicated years, Ron retired from the state and began working at Walmart in Grinnell. When he was not working, he enjoyed bowling, college sports, NASCAR, planting flowers, animals, and his tractor rides. Ron had a passion for the farm and his Farmall tractor. For over 17 years, Ron would take his Farmall, which was purchased new by his father in 1952, in tractor rides and parades. He has been a participant in both the WHO and the WMT rides where he enjoyed the time spent with friends as much as the ride itself. Ron enjoyed good country and gospel music, as well as his golf cart rides around Malcom. Halloween was always a favorite time for Ron. He loved to give someone a scare or play a joke. Ron understood that laughter was the best medicine. He didn’t miss a chance to visit with an old friend or make a new one. He was a man with a big heart who always put others first. Ron would tease and joke, but he was always there for anyone who needed it.

Ron was preceded in death by his parents; a brother, Keith Arvidson; and a brother-in-law, Ed Roche.

His memory will be honored by his loving wife, Shirley of Grinnell; four sons, Brent Arvidson of Brooklyn, Brad Arvidson of Coralville, Rod Arvidson of Malcom, and Brian Worthy of Boulder, Colo.; one daughter, Melinda Arvidson of Sigourney; his sisters, Donna Roche and Carolyn (Bob) Weisskopf, both of Grinnell; seven grandchildren, Ben, Andrea, Cassidy, Caleigh, Aliya, Max and Amanda Worthy; as well as nieces, nephews and many, many friends.
Ronald Arvidson, 77, of Grinnell and formerly of Malcom died Monday, Sept. 2, 2013, at Grinnell Regional Medical Center. Funeral services were held Thursday, Sept. 5, at the Community Hope Church in Montezuma. Burial was in the Jackson Township Cemetery in Montezuma.

Memorial contributions may be directed to the American Cancer Society or to the Parkinson's Disease Foundation (PDF). Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.hollandcoblefuneralhomes.com. Holland-Coble Funeral Home of Montezuma is in charge of arrangements.

Ronald Arvidson, son of Oscar “Emil” and Lois Hall Arvidson, was born Feb. 29, 1936, in Grinnell. Ron grew up in rural Brooklyn, and graduated from Brooklyn High School in 1956. On July 2, 1959, he married Shirley Harrington. Ron worked for a while at SIG Manufacturing before taking a job with the State of Iowa Department of Transportation. After 33 years, Ron retired from the state and began working at Walmart in Grinnell. When he was not working, he enjoyed bowling, college sports, NASCAR, planting flowers, animals, and his tractor rides. Ron had a passion for the farm and his H Farmall tractor which was purchased new by his father in 1952. He has been a participant in both the WHO and the WMT rides. Ron enjoyed good country and gospel music, golf cart rides around Malcom, and Halloween.

He is survived by his wife of 54 years Shirley of Grinnell; four sons, Brent Arvidson of Brooklyn, Brad Arvidson of Coralville, Rod Arvidson of Malcom and Brian Worthy of Boulder, Colo.; one daughter, Melinda Arvidson of Sigourney; his sisters, Donna Roche and Carolyn Weisskopf, both of Grinnell; seven grandchildren; and other friends and relations.

Ron was preceded in death by his parents and a brother, Keith Arvidson.