Lloyd W. Cousins, Jr.
Grinnell, Iowa

Lloyd Cousins, 74, died on Thursday, October 24, 2013 of Alzheimer’s disease at the Grinnell Health Care Center. He was born on September 24, 1939, in Evanston, Illinois, to Miriam Mills Cousins of Grinnell and Lloyd W. Cousins, Sr. He was a graduate of Evanston Township High School and received a degree from Kendall College in Evanston. He then entered his family’s travel agency, Cousins Tours & Travel, Inc., in 1960. His work was interrupted briefly from 1963 to 1965 when he served in the U.S. Army’s 1st Division. With his extensive knowledge of other countries and cultures, Lloyd continued work in the travel business until his retirement in 1999. While working in the travel agency, he met Vera Schmidt. They were married in 1966. In 2002 they retired to Grinnell. From 2004 to 2009, he served as docent at the Grinnell Historical Museum.

All his life he loved classical music and opera. These interests were greatly influenced by his parents who were both professionally trained classical musicians. For many years Lloyd was a competitive chess player, rated 1672 by the U. S. Chess Federation. In addition to being an accomplished chess player, he was gifted as a writer of prose and poetry. He loved nature and all types of animals. His extensive library reflects his interests in a broad range of disciplines such as philosophy, history, religion and educational trends, including history and early childhood reading education. In connection with this, he prepared a compilation of the methods of reading instruction from 1908 to 1990, citing the changing beliefs and philosophies that governed reading instruction in the United States over the years. (It is available at the Drake Community Library, Grinnell in the local authors section.)

He is mourned by his wife, Vera; his brothers, Michael and Stephen; his sister-in-law, Sandy; nieces and nephews; and his dog, Sheppie. A private burial service will be held in Illinois at a later date.