Ronald Charles Arnaman, son of Charles L. and Grace McConnell Arnaman was born on April 14, 1925 on his family’s farm southeast of Ewart. He attended country school at Pleasant #9 through eighth grade and graduated from Montezuma High School with the class of 1942.

Ron enlisted in the U.S. Navy in November 1942 at the age of 17. He was sent to Farragut, Idaho, one of the first C companies to be at the naval training station there. Upon graduation from boot camp, he was sent to machinist school in San Diego. He then was assigned to the new submarine repair ship the USS Proteus and served 28 months in the Pacific at Pearl Harbor, Guam, Midway Island and the Philippines. Ron got to witness the signing of the peace treaty in Tokyo Bay in 1945. Ron was honorably discharged as a Machinist Mate First Class in April of 1946 after 42 months of service and one week before his 21st birthday.

Ron started a successful farming career in Pleasant Township and married Irma Ruth Bunnell on September 28, 1947 at the Brooklyn United Methodist Church and they became the parents of three daughters, Beverly Ann, Vicky Lynn and Rebecca Jean. Ron was a member of the VFW Post 8875 of Montezuma serving Commander for several years and also a member of the American Legion. He was a charter member of the National Cattlemen’s Association, the Iowa Cattlemen and Pork Producers, the Soy Bean and Corn Association and a 50-year member of Farm Bureau. He also served as Washington Township Trustee and Chairman of the County Township Election Board. Ron and Irma enjoyed square dancing and were members of the Grinnell Twirlers Square Dance Club, the Ewart Presbyterian Church serving as both elder and trustee, the Grinnell Presbyterian Church and enjoyed traveling throughout many states and foreign countries.

Ron is preceded in death by his parents.

Ron is survived by his wife, Irma of rural Grinnell; his daughters, Beverly Ann Hatcher of Grinnell, Vicky (Gerald) Middendorf of Olathe, Kansas, and Rebecca (Richard) Wiley-Wall of North Augusta, South Carolina; his grandchildren, Michael (Edie) Hatcher of Grinnell, Jason (Kristen) Hatcher of West Des Moines, Matthew and Patrick Middendorf of Olathe, Kan., Dr. Daniel Wiley of Georgia and Annagrace (Leonard) Goeke of Washington, Iowa; as well as many nieces, nephews and many friends.
Ronald Arnaman, 88, of rural Grinnell, passed away Thursday, Jan. 16, 2014, at the Grinnell Regional Medical Center. Funeral services were held on Monday, Jan. 20, at 1:30 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church in Grinnell. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the First Presbyterian Church of Grinnell, the Grinnell Regional Medical Center Hospice, the Montezuma VFW, or the Montezuma American Legion. Friends can sign the online guestbook at www.hollandcobblefuneralhomes.com.

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