

6H-R  
Marvin H. Blaess 1-27-14

Marvin H. Blaess, 98, of Grinnell and formerly of Brooklyn, died Saturday, Jan. 25, 2014, at Grinnell Regional Medical Center.  
Services are pending at Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell.

6H-R  
1-30-2014 **Marvin Henry Blaess**

Marvin Henry Blaess, 98, of Grinnell, died January 25, 2014, at Grinnell Regional Medical Center.

Funeral services are scheduled for 11:00 a.m. Friday, January 31, at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell. Burial will be held at the Linwood Park Cemetery in Boone Friday afternoon.

Visitation with the family present will be held one hour prior to the service at the funeral home.

Memorial contributions may be directed to the Grace United Methodist Church in Brooklyn or St. Francis Manor in Grinnell.



Marvin was born on a farm northwest of Boone on January 21, 1916, to Louis and Anna Kruetner Blaess. He attended St. Paul's Lutheran School and graduated from the 8th grade. He then worked on the family farm.

At the age of 20, he married Darlene Ione Harris at her folks' home in Boone. Following their marriage, he held various jobs and in 1942 he worked for the Chicago & North Western Railroad as a fireman. In March of 1944, he was inducted into the United States Army and took his basic training in Louisiana. His unit, the 752nd Railroad Operating Unit, was formed and in December of 1944 he was sent to Europe to operate locomotives, hauling army supplies throughout France, Belgium, Holland and Germany. He arrived back in the United States in January of 1946.

In 1947, he attended engineer's school and took his engineers examination in Chicago and was promoted to engineer. He retired from the railroad in 1974 and moved to Holiday Lake, north of Brooklyn. In 1984, he and his wife moved into the town of Brooklyn and started a garden produce business. He took care of the garden and Darlene was in charge of selling the produce. Their next move was to Grinnell where he resided until his death.

Marvin was a member of the Grace United Methodist Church of Brooklyn, the Brotherhood of Locomotive Fireman and Engineers, the United Transportation Union, the Elks Lodge and the American Legion. He loved to hunt, fish and garden. He and Darlene spent most of the winters in Fort Meyers Beach in Florida until their health no longer allowed them to go.

He is survived by his daughter, Elaine Schafbuch; daughter-in-law, Katie Blaess Swikert; seven grandchildren, Randy (Vicki) Schafbuch, Rodney (Lori) Schafbuch, Rick (Daneen) Schafbuch, Melanee (Mike) Stanbrough, Mike (Amy) Blaess, Mark Blaess and Chris Blaess; nine great-grandchildren, Jennifer (Andy) Callard, Lexi Schafbuch, Dylan Schafbuch, Alexis Lynd Schafbuch, Logan Schafbuch, Nick Stanbrough, Alex Stanbrough, Alison Blaess and Michael Blaess; and one great-great-grandson, Huxley Callard. He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Darlene; his son, Darrell; and two great-grandsons, Austin Schafbuch and Jackson Blaess.