RICHARD OLSON

Richard Olson, 72, of Montezuma passed away Friday, November 8, 2013. Memorial services will be held Friday, November 15, 2013 at 2 p.m. at the United Methodist Church in Montezuma.

A time of fellowship will follow in the basement of the church. As were his wishes, his body had been donated to the University of Iowa Medical College. Burial will be in the Mitchellville Cemetery at a later date. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Montezuma United Methodist Church. Friends can sign the online guestbook at www.hollandcoblefuneralhomes.com.

Richard "Dick" Olson, son of Trygve and Edna (Stevens) Olson, was born July 12, 1941 in Mitchellville. He was the youngest of nine children.

Dick spent his early years in the Mitchellville area before moving on to further his education. He attended Grandview College where he graduated with an associate's degree. Dick then went on to SCI (State College of Iowa, now UNI) where he received both his bachelor's and master's degrees in education.

He accepted a job at Montezuma Community Schools where he taught 7th, 8th, and 9th grade language arts. He spent 33 years correcting grammar and sparking students' interest in classic literature. Dick called Montezuma home for over 50 years. He was not only a part of the school, but a part of the community. Dick was an animal lover. His cat and little dog, Taffy, had a special place in his heart. Taffy was the first dog that he had which didn't have the name LC: "Little Charlie." Dick loved to keep in touch with his family. Unlike some of his generation, he quickly embraced social media, such as Facebook, as a way to keep in touch. He was known for creating and distributing the family calendar that had special dates for all family members. He was often thought of as the family historian.

Dick took pride in the things he called his own. He was an active member of the Montezuma United Methodist Church, where he handled audio/visual aid for services held there. He was a brother, uncle, teacher and friend who had a special place in the hearts of his family and in the community of Montezuma.

Dick was preceded in death by his parents; three brothers, Robert, Marion, and Ted Olson; and three sisters, Dorothy Stoll, Doris Casperson and Helen Willmot.

His memory is cherished by his two brothers, Roger (Jo) Olson and Don (Pauline) Olson, both of California. He also leaves behind 23 nieces and nephews and many, many friends.