Brian J. Becker

6H-R Ce-23-201

Brian J. Becker, 71, of Newton died Wednesday, June 11, 2014, at Skiff Medical Center. The son of Joseph and Velva (Stitt) Becker, he was born May 25, 1943, in Iowa City. Brian grew up in Grinnell, moving to Newton in 1958, and graduating with the Newton Class of 1961. He attended St. Ambrose College and the University of Iowa before enlisting in the U.S. Army in 1963. Brian served his country with the U.S. Army 6th Special Forces "Green Berets" in Vietnam and swas a radio operator and paraatrooper. He was an auditor for the State of Iowa DOT, fuel tax division, until his retirement

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in 2005. Brian was an avid reader and well-versed in many subjects, particularly the Vietnam War. He enjoyed golf, gardening, following University of Iowa and Big 10 sports, the Iowa Speedway and country

music. He was a member of the Elks Club.

He is survived by daughter Brooke Smith; grandsons, Tristen and Brayden Smith; granddaughter Addisyn Smith; sisters, Susan Becker and Barbara Becker (Kate Houston); first cousins, and many life long friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, and by grandparents B. Wayne and Edna (Ball) Stitt and Harry and Margaret (Delaney) Becker.

Friends and family will gather to celebrate his life on Saturday, June 28, 2014-from 3.5 p.m. at the Elks Club in Newton, Iowa. A private

family burial service is planned.