

GHR

Ronald Leo Gruver

7-3-2014

Ronald Leo Gruver was born June 27, 1941, in Emmetsburg, Iowa. He was the youngest of seven children that were born to Charles and Gladys (Rubel) Gruver.

He grew up in Emmetsburg where he also attended school. After school Ron worked various jobs before coming to Grinnell, Iowa, in 1968 to work for Martin's OK Tire Shop where he later met Eileen Brand during a service call.

On September 5, 1969, Ron was united in marriage to Eileen Fern Brand at the First Reformed Church in Sully, Iowa. Following their marriage, they lived in Grinnell, Iowa, before

moving to their current home north of Sully on the old Van Roekel farm, Eileen's grandparents' farmstead. To this union, they were blessed with three sons: Michael Eugene, Timothy Leo, and Douglas Charles.

For over twenty years Ron was an over-the-road semi driver for Universe Truck Lines of Omaha, Nebraska, and other trucking companies until his August 1995 diagnosis with Parkinson's Disease, which cut his career short.

He was an avid Elvis Presley fan who enjoyed his extensive collection of memorabilia and enjoyed listening to the Gaither vocal band with Eileen. Also, he enjoyed his multiple rose gardens and peony bushes that he spent many hours grooming and caring for. Lastly, Ron enjoyed traveling with Eileen to visit his family in Arizona, Washington, and around the Midwest.

Ron created many memories attending his children's and later grandchildren's church activities, music concerts, plays, track meets and other sporting activities until he was physically unable. In his spare time, he enjoyed fishing with friends and going out for drives around the countryside. In all of the things that made Ron happy, time with his family was what truly filled his life with joy. Ron was a member of the First Reformed Church in Sully, Iowa, where he attended church until his health failed.

Ron passed away on Wednesday, June 18, 2014, at the Grinnell Regional Medical Center at the age of seventy-two years. Those left to cherish his memory are his wife, Eileen Gruver of Lynnville, IA; his three sons and their spouses: Michael and April Gruver of Pella, IA; Timothy and Karri Gruver of Plainfield, IL; and Douglas and Janise Gruver of Sully, IA; and his seven grandchildren: Brittany, Gabrielle, Jacob, Abigail, Quinn, James, and Drake Gruver. Also surviving from Ron's original family are his brothers: Robert Gruver of Winterset, IA; Don and Jean Gruver of Adel, IA; his sister: Cleo Crawford of Mesa, AZ; sister-in-law, Alberta (Duane) Gruver of Algona, IA; half brothers, Charles Jr. and Lorraine Gruver of Woodland, WA; Richard and Cheryl Henrich of Emmetsburg, IA; and half-sister, Shirley (Joe) Roberts of St. Louis Park, MN; along with numerous nieces and nephews.

Ron was preceded in death by his parents; his brothers, Kenny, John, and Duane Gruver; sister-in-law, Lavonne (Robert) Gruver; half sister, Maria Schild; and father-in-law and mother-in-law, Roscoe and Wilma (Van Roekel) Brand.

Funeral services were held on Monday, June 23, 2014 at the First Reformed Church in Sully. Arrangements were handled by Van Dyk - Duven Funeral Home in Pella.

