

PCLR 10-22-2014

Ralph R. Fleener, 98



Ralph R. Fleener, age 98, of Grinnell, died on Monday, October 13,

2014, at Grinnell Health Care Center.

A funeral service was held at 10:30 a.m., Friday, October 17, at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell with the Rev. Don Johnston and the Rev. Eldon Pals officiating. Interment was in Hazelwood Cemetery in Grinnell.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be designated in his name to the Calvary Baptist Church, mailed in care of the Smith Funeral Home, PO Box 368, Grinnell, Iowa 50112. Memories and condolences may be shared with the family at www.smithfh.com.

Ralph Randolph Fleener was born the son of Arthur and Telatha (Reeves) Fleener on April 3, 1916 in Grinnell. He was raised on the family farm in Grant Township near Grinnell and attended Grant Township country school.

Following his education, he farmed with his dad and worked for and

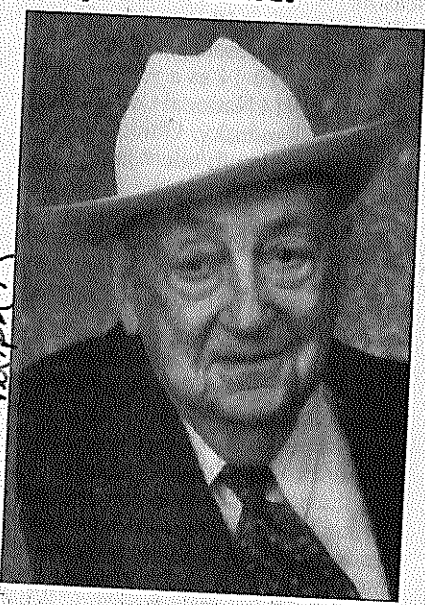
later owned the Grinnell Livestock Exchange. He was united in marriage to Dorothy Maxine Wahner on March 6, 1937, at the Little Brown Church in Nashua. To this union were born four children: Robert, Marilyn, Don and Janet. The couple lived and farmed near Grinnell all of their married lives.

Ralph attended Calvary Baptist Church in Grinnell and was a lifetime member of the Grinnell Elks Lodge. His grandchildren recalled him being a great storyteller, a math whiz, and someone who loved family get-togethers, picnics, and swinging on the swing in the screened-in porch. His other enjoyments included taking fishing trips to Canada and Minnesota, mushroom hunting, and gardening.

Ralph is survived by his daughter, Janet (Greg) Muckler of Grinnell; 8 grandchildren; 12 great grandchildren; and 3 great great grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; wife, Dorothy Fleener; 2 sons, Robert and Don Fleener; daughter, Marilyn Rector; and siblings, Veda Hyde, Everton Fleener, Vera Christinson, Viola Schooley, Nellie VanAlmkerke, and Woodrow Fleener.

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Pals officiating. Interment will be in Hazelwood Cemetery in Grinnell.

Visitation began at 2 p.m. on Thursday at the Smith Funeral Home with the family present to greet friends from 5 until 7 p.m.

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BH-R 10-16-2014