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Dr. Robert F. Cech 2015

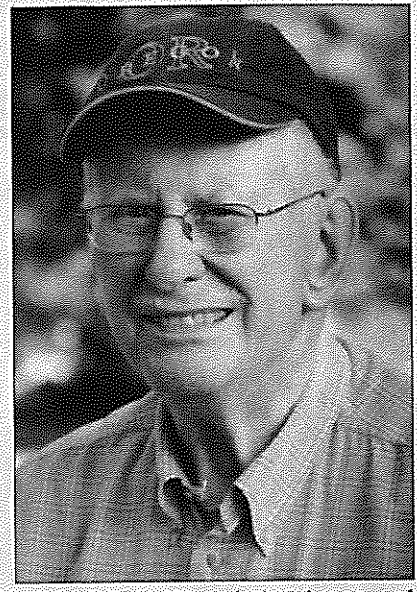
Dr. Robert F. Cech, 93, of Grinnell and formerly of Des Moines and Iowa City, died on Thursday, Jan. 1, 2015, at the Mayflower Community Health Care Center. Smith Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

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1-15-2015

Robert Franklin Cech, M.D.

Robert Franklin Cech, M.D., 93, passed away on January 1, 2015, at the Mayflower Health Center in Grinnell. He was born in Chicago, Illinois on Dec. 8, 1921, the son of Robert Frank and Agnes Kasal Cech. Robert's two younger brothers, Richard and Melvin, preceded him in death.

Robert and Annette Marie Cerveny were wed on June 16, 1945, in Cicero, Illinois, the beginning of a wonderful relationship and 69-year marriage. Their children are Thomas (Carol) Cech, Barbara (Clarence) Stahl and Richard "Richo" (Mayche) Cech. Grandchildren are Allison (Jason) Murray, Jennifer, Nadja (Gavin Douglas), Jebran, and Sena Olivier.



Stimulated by science in high school, and influenced by his father's trade as a pharmacist, Robert was inspired to pursue a medical career. He received his medical training at the University of Illinois College of Medicine in Chicago, and in 1946, received his M.D. degree. He did his residency at Hines V.A. Hospital in suburban Chicago, then joined the medical staff at the V.A. Hospital in Iowa City, Iowa. A friend in Champaign, Illinois, encouraged Robert to set up a private practice there. After two years in Champaign, Robert decided to return to the V.A. in Iowa City, where he accepted a position as Assistant Chief of the Radioisotope Lab. Later, he was offered a position as Chief of Nuclear Medicine at the V.A. Hospital in Des Moines. He accepted this position, and retired from there with a 40-year medical career.

Robert was a student of physics. The theories of Einstein, Feynman, and Hawking were the material of his daily studies. He enjoyed challenging himself and sharing with others, scientific observations that intrigued him. Robert took great pleasure in family members' achievements, and enjoyed reviewing them, over and over again. Science captivated Robert's intellectual curiosity, and love of family, he self-proclaimed, was the joy of his life.

A remembrance honoring Robert's life will be held at a later date. Memorials may be directed to Grinnell-Newburg Dollars for Scholars or the Drake Community Library.