Arthur Louis Cook, age 89, of Grinnell and formerly of Bella Vista, Arkansas, and Wichita, Kansas, died on Sunday, December 7, 2014, at St. Francis Manor in Grinnell.

A celebration of his life will be held at 11:00 a.m., Saturday, January 24, 2015, at the St. Francis Manor Social Center in Grinnell with the Rev. Virgil Scott officiating. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service at the St. Francis Manor Social Center.

Memorials may be designated to St. Francis Manor and 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.

Arthur Louis Cook was born on April 22, 1925, in Kansas City, Kansas, to Lyle and Aileen Cook. He was raised in Kansas City and he attended Hawthorne Grade School, NW Junior High School and graduated from Wyandotte High School in 1943. He joined the United States Navy in February of 1943, and was sent to Boot Camp at Farragut, Idaho. He received electrician training at Iowa State University and attended gyro compass school at Brooklyn Navy Yard. He was assigned to LST 44 bound for England in December of 1943, and participated in the invasion of Normandy on June 4, 1944. He returned to the United States on May 9, 1945, and was assigned to Little Creek Amphibious Base until his honorable discharge on April 1, 1945. On March 6, 1948, he was united in marriage to Erma Pierce Cook.

He attended Kansas City Junior College and graduated from Kansas City University in 1950 with a BA in Economics. Art worked for Richards and Conover Hardware Company in Kansas City, Missouri, from 1950 until 1958. He operated several restaurants in Enid, Oklahoma. In the summer of 1965, he was employed by KG & E in Wichita, Kansas, in the Commercial Marketing Department. Art retired in 1986, and moved to Bella Vista, Arkansas. In 2000, he was united in marriage to Frances Bowers Cook and lived in Bella Vista until 2011, when he and Fran moved to Grinnell.

Art is survived by his wife, Frances Bowers Cook of Grinnell; daughter, Pamela (Don Cadden) Cook of Alpine, TX; son, Craig (Cynthia) Cook of Houston, TX; five grandchildren: Job (Laurie) Cook of Nashville, TN, Adam Aurry of Providence, RI, Taryn (Michael) Kinney, Taylor Cook; and Carrie Cook all of Houston, TX; five great grandchildren; and many steps children, step-grandchildren and step-great grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his son Alan Cook in 1992; and his wife of 48 years, Erma Cook in 1996.
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