Donald L. Butler, 74

Donald L Butler, 74, of Gilman, died Friday, Oct. 14, 2005, at his home.

His funeral service was held Tuesday, Oct. 18, at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell. Interment was at Prairie View Cemetery in Gilman with military rites. Smith Funeral Home, Grinnell, was in charge of the arrangements.

Don is survived by his wife, Gladys, of Gilman; his children, Gary (Barb) Pagel of New Sharon, Richard (Betty) Pagel of Brooklyn, Rebbecca (Dean) Roth of Brooklyn; Cheri (Allard) Jacobson of Pleasantville and Robin (Frank) Wilcox of Gilman; 13 grandchildren, six great-grandchildren and his sister, Laverna Kifer, of Waterloo.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Dewey and Alma (Johnson) Butler; brother Richard Butler and a grandson, Ryan Pagel.

Memorial contributions may be directed to Grinnell Regional Hospice. Online condolences may be submitted to the family at www.smithfh.com.
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Donald L. Butler, 74, of Gilman died Friday, Oct. 14, at his home.

Funeral services for Donald Butler were held at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 18, at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell. Burial with military rites followed at Prairie View Cemetery in Gilman.

He was born Feb. 20, 1931, in Iowa City, the son of Ronald Logston and Ruby Birk, and was adopted by Dewey Butler and Alma Johnson. After the death of his adopted mother, his adopted father married Faye Michaels, who had a daughter Dixie Michaels Keenan. They lived in Montezuma where Donald was educated.

He joined the Army Air Force in 1947 and served his country until 1950, when he was honorably discharged at March Air Force Base in California. He lived in Riverside, Calif., and attended the University of California for one year. In 1973, he moved to Grinnell and was married to Gladys Springer.

He performed various jobs, working at the lumber yard, Miracle Recreation, and owning a roofing business. In 1981, the couple moved to California where they managed apartment complexes for 10 years before retiring to Gilman in 1991. The couple owned and operated an apartment building, and Don also worked at Newton Motel.

He was a member of the Grinnell and Gilman American Legions, and Lions International. He loved being with his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

He is survived by his wife, Gladys, of Gilman; his children, Gary Pagel of New Sharon, Richard Pagel of Brooklyn, Rebecca Roth of Brooklyn, Cheri Jacobson of Pleasantville and Robin Wilcox of Gilman; 13 grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; and a sister, Laverne Kifer of Waterloo.

He was preceded in death by his biological and adopted parents; a grandson; and his sister Dixie Keenan.

Condolences may be submitted to the family online at www.smithfh.com.

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