Matthew A. Henderson, 32

Matthew A. Henderson, 32, of Grinnell and formerly of Rochester, Minn., died Friday, May 27, 2005, at Mary Greeley Medical Center in Ames.

His funeral service was held Tuesday, May 31, at the Grinnell Christian Church with the Rev. Tim Stewart, pastor of the First Baptist Church, officiating. Interment was at Hazelwood Cemetery in Grinnell.

Casket bearers were Nate Donner, Bill Donovan, Ed Elliott, Drew Frana, Mark Reinking, Dave Rogotzke, Joe Shields and Chris Wilson. Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell was in charge of the arrangements.

Matthew was born on May 30, 1972, in Grinnell, to Patricia Ann Fairchild and Norman W. Henderson. He graduated from Grinnell High School in 1990.

During and following high school graduation, Matthew worked as an auto mechanic with his uncle Randy (Fairchild). He was then employed as a welder for 10 years at Donaldson’s in Grinnell. His most recent occupation was a supervisor at Wal-Mart in Rochester, before returning to Grinnell last month to be closer to his family.

Matthew was a competitive person who enjoyed playing golf and softball. He also enjoyed debating with people, collecting sports cards and comic books, and spending time with his family.

He is survived by his parents, Ann (and James) Bell of Grinnell and Norman (and Vicki) Henderson of Lake Ponderosa; his brother, Patrick (and Kerri) Henderson of Ames and Andrew Henderson of Grinnell; his grandparents, Odell Fairchild of Grinnell, and Don and Carol Henderson of Lynnville; his great grandmother, May Slagle of Grinnell; his stepbrothers, Allan Burkett of Newton, and Shane Burkett of Grimes; his step-sisters, Deanna Owens of Grandview, Mo., and Stephanie Chiarito of Chicago; and several nieces and nephews.

Matthew was preceded in death by his grandmother, Lucille Fairchild; an aunt, Ingegn Fairchild; and uncle, Randy Fairchild, and his stepbrother, Chad Burkett.

Memorial contributions should be directed to the Matthew A. Henderson Memorial Fund. Friends and family may also send condolences messages by submitting them on the Smith Funeral Home Web site at www.smithfh.com.