Dr. K.L. Hoeftert

Dr. K.L. (Jim) Hoeftert, 96, of Grinnell died on Wednesday, Nov. 23, at his home.

A memorial gathering with the family will be held from 3 to 5 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 1, at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell. Inurnment will be held later at Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Va.

H was born June 10, 1909, in Sharon, Penn., to Martin and Maud Laurence Hoeftert. He was raised in Sharon and graduated from Sharon High School. He continued his education at the University of Iowa, where he received a bachelor of science degree and a doctorate in dental science in 1937.

In 1936, he married Laura Naomi Sentsman in Iowa City. The couple moved to Grinnell in 1938 and he practiced dentistry.

In March 25, 1941, he was called to active duty with the U.S. Army and served with the 9156 Task Force in the south Pacific. He continued to serve with the Army Reserves after the war, until 1976. He retired from military service as a lieutenant colonel.

Following the death of his first wife, he married Margaret Newton Brobyn on April 29, 1972, in Des Moines.

While living in Grinnell, he was member of the United Methodist Church and for many years served as secretary of the Grinnell Kiwanis Club. He was a member of the Masonic Lodge and a lifelong member of the Iowa State Dental Association. He also made eight trips to Haiti and served as a medical missionary at the Oblate Mission.

He is survived by his daughter, Dorothy Lumsden, of Carlisle, Iowa; two sons, John Hoeftert of Houston, Texas, and Donald Hoeftert of Watertown S.D.; a stepson, Dr. Thomas Brobyn of Philadelphia, Penn.; two stepdaughters, Susan Moore of Las Cruces, N.M., and Sarah Petrello of Brooklyn, N.Y.; eight grandchildren; and five great grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his first wife in 1970; his second wife in 2005; a sister, Dorothy McCann and two brothers, Theron and Nevin.

Memorials may be directed to Grinnell Regional Hospice, Grinnell Regional Medical Center, or the United Methodist Church of Grinnell and may be sent in care of Dorothy Lumsden, 710 Stuart St., Carlisle, Iowa 50047.