Ralph O. McDonald

Ralph O. McDonald, 88, of Grinnell, died on Thursday, April 21, at Mayflower Health Care Center in Grinnell.

A memorial service will be held Friday, June 17, at the Mayflower Health Care Center in Grinnell. He will be buried next to his wife, Shirley, at Hazelwood Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be directed to the Mayflower Human Needs Endowment Fund, 616 Broad Street, Grinnell, Iowa 50112.

Smith Funeral Home of Grinnell is handling arrangements.

The June 16, 2003

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A memorial service will be held Friday, June 17, at 2 p.m. at the Carman Center at the Mayflower. He will be buried next to his wife, Shirley, at Hazelwood Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be directed to the Mayflower Human Needs Endowment Fund, 616 Broad Street, Grinnell, Iowa 50112.

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Ralph McDonald, 88, of Grinnell died Thursday, April 21, 2005, at Mayflower Health Care Center.

A memorial service will be held Friday, June 17, at 2 p.m. in Carman Center at Mayflower Health Care Center with interment following in Hazelwood Cemetery next to his wife Shirley. Memorial contributions may be made to Mayflower Human Needs Fund, 616 Broad St., Grinnell.

Ralph Owen McDonald was born June 14, 1916, in Fort Wayne, Ind., the son of Walter H. and K. Louise Corrigan McDonald. With his family he lived in Indiana, Kansas, Michigan and Wisconsin before moving to Minneapolis, Minn. He attended the University of Wisconsin for one year before transferring to the University of Minnesota from which he received the bachelor of science degree in civil engineering in 1938. He was married to Shirley St. Clair on June 16, 1939, in Minneapolis. He was employed by Paper Calmenson and Company for 48 years before retiring. After retirement, he did volunteer work with persons with mental disabilities as well as other charitable organizations for which he received many recognitions and awards.

The McDonalds moved to Mayflower in 1991 and he continued volunteer work. He was a member of St. Paul’s Episcopal Church in Grinnell, past treasurer of Mayflower Residents’ Association, and implementer of the Shop 'n Share Program in which a local grocery store paid a percentage of receipts received from employees and residents to the Mayflower Human Needs Fund, a program which will continue in his memory.

He is survived by one daughter Merideth Settje of Pleasant Hill, Calif.; two grandchildren, four great grandchildren and one sister Helen Bachtle of Stevens Point, Wis. He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife Shirley, one son Lee Howard McDonald, one grandson and one brother Walter McDonald.