Carl D. Schlesselman, 65

Carl D. Schlesselman of Deep River died Saturday, Jan. 29, 2005.

His funeral service will be held at 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 2, at Watts Funeral Home in Montezuma with burial following at Jackson Township Cemetery, Montezuma.

Visitation with the family will be from 6-8 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 1. Memorial contributions may be directed to the American Cancer Society.
Carl D. Schlesselman, 65

Carl D. Schlesselman, 65, of Deep River, died Saturday, Jan. 29, 2005 at Grinnell Regional Medical Center, Grinnell.

His funeral service was Wednesday, Feb. 2, at Watts Funeral Home, Montezuma, with the Rev. Dennis Dorshiemer officiating. Interment was at Jackson Township Cemetery, Montezuma.

Casket bearers were LaVerne Schlesselman, Robert Schlesselman, Martin Schlesselman, Gilbert Schlesselman, Jack Schlesselman, Melvin Ranfeld and Randy Ranfeld.

Carl was born Feb. 3, 1939, at Grinnell, the son of Albert and Elsie (LeBeau) Schlesselman. He graduated from Deep River High School in 1956. Carl then played for the John Beecher Band and traveled professionally for three years. During this time, he had the opportunity to meet Johnny Cash, Jimmy Durante, Julius LaRosa and several other musicians. On April 14, 1963, he was united in marriage with Bonnie Baird at the Methodist Church in Malcom. To this union, two children were born, Mike and Kris. They farmed until 1985, when Carl opened his own business, Carl's Small Engine Repair. He was also a rural mail carrier for almost 20 years. Carl was a self-taught and talented musician playing the guitar, fiddle, banjo and trumpet. He had his own band, Nite Shift, and also played in several other bands.

Carl is survived by his wife, Bonnie, and their family. Mike of West Helena, Ark., and his children, Jonathan, Paul and Kayla Schlesselman and Kris and her husband, Peter Kiernan, of Des Moines, and their children, James and Katherine; his mother, Elsie Schlesselman, of Montezuma; and other relatives and many friends.

He was preceded in death by his father, Albert.

Memorials in his name may be directed to the Cancer Society of Iowa.