Arthur B. Goeke Jr., 90, of Grinnell, died on Tuesday, August 18, 2015, at the Grinnell Health Care Center.

A funeral service will be held at 11:00 a.m., Saturday, August 22, 2015, at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell with the Rev. Brian Chitwood, pastor of the Madison Church of Christ, officiating. Casket Bearers will be Chad Thomas, Jeff Goeke Smith, Ashley Neville, Angie Hubbard, Katie Neville and Darren Vogt. Interment will be at the Woodlawn Cemetery in Toledo.

Friends may call at the Smith Funeral Home from 12 noon to 4 pm on Friday and the family will be present at the funeral home from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on Saturday.

Memorials may be directed to Camp Courageous or to Hospice Compassus and sent in care of the Smith Funeral Home, P.O. Box 368, Grinnell, IA 50112.

Art was born on September 27, 1924, in Baxter, Iowa, to Arthur and Neva Boyd Goeke. He was the oldest of nine children. The family moved several times in his young life, eventually ending on a farm between Montezuma and Guernsey. He attended Guernsey High School, where he met Bessie Herbrander, who he married on March 24, 1945, in Montezuma. During World War II, he served with the U.S. Army as a paratrooper. He was one of the first soldiers to parachute on the Tokyo Airfield for the occupation of Japan after their surrender. In the fall of 1946, he returned home and assisted his father-in-law as a farm hand. In 1950, Art and Bessie, started farming in Madison Township and were the parents of three children. They later farmed near Brooklyn and Ewart. In 1973, the family moved to Toledo and he accepted a position with Pioneer Hi-Bred Company. During his career with Pioneer, he traveled abroad to assist the company with new operations. His wife died in 1994, and he was married to Nedra Neville on May 27, 1995, in Toledo. Art and Nedra moved to Grinnell in 1999 and he worked for Dwight's Clothing and Flowers on Fourth.

Art was a faithful member of Kiwanis International and served as President of clubs in Toledo/Tama and Grinnell. He had also belonged to American Legions in Brooklyn, Malcom, Tama and Toledo. He also traveled to Washington DC with one of the first Honor Flights.

Art and Nedra enjoyed spending winters in Florida, dancing and playing cards. His grandchildren enjoyed playing nickel rummies with him.

Survivors include his wife, Nedra Neville of Grinnell; his children, Charles Goeke of Mason, Michigan, Janet Garry) Bartley of Indiana and Thomas (Theresa) Goeke of Pueblo, CO; three step children, Dawn Neville of Wiley, TX, Vickie Neville of Omaha, NE and Wayne (Ann) Neville Jr. of Tipton, IA; 12 grandchildren; 15 great grandchildren; three great great grandchildren; one sister, Beverly Draphal of Montezuma; and four brothers, Leonard (Anagrace) Goeke of Washington, IA, Kenneth (Berry) Goeke of Darlington, SC, Donald (Carol) Goeke of Sacramento, CA and David Goeke of Ottumwa, IA.

He was preceded in death by his first wife; his parents; one sister, Arlette; and one brother, Keith.
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