JAMES LEROY ROGERS

Funeral services for 70 year old Leroy Rogers of What Cheer will be held on Thursday, July 23, 2015 at 10:30 a.m. at the Holland-Coble Funeral Home in What Cheer.

Leroy passed away on Saturday, July 18, 2015 at the University of Iowa Hospital in Iowa City. Burial will be in the Indianapolis Cemetery at What Cheer. Visitation begins at noon at the Holland-Coble Funeral Home in What Cheer on Wednesday, July 22 with the family present from 4-8 p.m. Memorial contributions may be directed to the What Cheer Fire and Rescue or the Keokuk County Ambulance. Friends may send condolences or sign the online guestbook at www.hollandcoblefhh.com.

James Leroy Rogers was born September 14, 1944 in Oskaloosa, the son of Oden DeWitt Rogers and Eva Lorene Pierce. He was a 1962 graduate of Tri-County South High School. After graduating, Leroy attended American Institute of Business for two years in accounting. On April 10, 1965 Leroy was united in marriage to Donna Sue Van Patten of What Cheer. He celebrated 50 years with his life long sweetheart just this year. The couple lived in Williamsburg, where Leroy worked as an accountant for Farm Service. For several years Leroy was a successful feed salesman withRalston Purina and Wake’s Feed. The couple was blessed with two sons Scott Allen and Bryan Leroy. Donna and Leroy purchased a farm place in What Cheer, Iowa in 1978, when Leroy decided to pursue his passion for farming along side his wife and sons.

Leroy was full of life enjoying it completely whether it be playing cards and square dancing with friends, attending his kids and grandkids school events, fishing with the grandkids, working on the farm, and just spending time with family. The grandkids loved coming to the farm and riding in “Pa Pa’s” tractor, running on hay bales, going on morning donut runs to Casey’s with Grandpa, and checking on the cows. Never a passive Grandpa, Leroy could often be found on the floor along with the kids playing, right there beside them. Leroy always made his family feel loved by teasing, tormenting, and making up all sorts of nicknames for them. He gave them lots of hugs, laughs, and cherished memories. Leroy didn’t know any strangers. Everyone was his friend and was willing to strike up a conversation with anyone, at any moment.

On Thursday July 16, Leroy suffered a heart attack. He passed away on Saturday July 18 at University of Iowa Hospital surrounded by his family.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a brother Leroy Rogers.

Leroy is survived by his wife Donna, of What Cheer; two sons Scott (Lori) Rogers of Oskaloosa, Bryan (Lynette) of Spicer, Minnesota; one sister, Mary (Larry) Kaufman of Anamosa; a sister-in-law, Donna Rogers of Oskaloosa; seven grandchildren: Adam (Marianne) Rogers of Oskaloosa, Austin (Whitney Hahn) Rogers of Oskaloosa, Alyson Rogers of Oskaloosa, Oden, Lucas, Ely, and Waverley Rogers of Spicer, Minnesota; and two great-granddaughters Annabelle and Willow.