James R. Wisecarver, 82

James R. Wisecarver, age 82, of Grinnell and formerly of Malcolm, died on Thursday, November 26, 2015, at Iowa Methodist Medical Center in Des Moines.

A celebration of life service with military honors was held Tuesday, December 1, 2015, at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell with Pastor John Epperson officiating. A private family interment will be held at Ivy Hill Cemetery in Malcolm.

Visitation was on Monday at the Smith Funeral Home with the family present to greet friends from that evening.

Memorial contributions may be designated to PALS (Poweshiek Animal League Shelter) and mailed in care of the Smith Funeral Home, P.O. Box 368, Grinnell, Iowa 50112. Memorials and condolences may be shared online with the family at www.smithfh.com.

James Ray Wisecarver was born the son of Clarence and Gladys (Murphy) Wisecarver on March 15, 1933, in Marshalltown, Iowa. He was raised on the family farm near Malcolm and attended Country School #9 near Malcolm. He graduated from Grinnell High School with the class of 1950.

Jim honorably served in the United States Army during the Korean War and was stationed at Fort Leavenworth and Fort Riley in Kansas. Upon honorable discharge, he returned home and began farming with his uncles, Harold and Raymond.

Jim was united in marriage to Harriett Louise Martens on July 28, 1957, at the Grinnell United Methodist Church. The couple was blessed with three children, Michael, Krisanne and Sara. They lived near Malcom on the family farm, where they operated a grain and livestock operation. Jim served on the boards of the Malcolm Coop and the Trinity Lutheran Church north of Malcom. He served in leadership roles on both boards.

Jim was a family man and thoroughly enjoyed farm life. Although farm life was very demanding his children always remember he made time to play ball and attend their school events. He was an avid Iowa Hawkeye fan and also enjoyed watching NASCAR races, especially cheering on Dale Earnhardt Sr. and Dale Earnhardt Jr. His other enjoyments included gardening, attending sports activities, trips to Florida and Missouri as well as the companionship of his dogs.

Jim is survived by his wife of 58 years, Harriett Wisecarver of Grinnell; son, Michael (Tina) Wisecarver of Bowling Green, Missouri; two daughters, Krisanne (Michael) Calhoun of West Des Moines and Sara (Larry) Leftwich of Maitland, Florida; 8 grandchildren, Gavin, Arikah, Briahna, Austen, Kahri, Kiersi, Jack, Josie; and his favorite pal, Buffy.

Jim was preceded in death by his mother, uncles and aunt.
GRINNELL RESIDENT

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