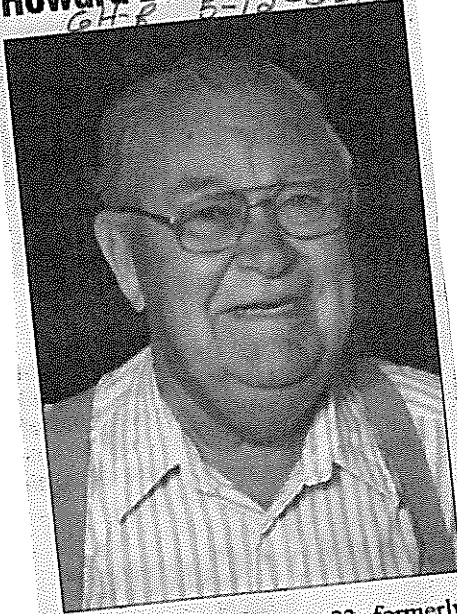


## Howard E. Gillespie

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Howard E. Gillespie, 83, formerly of Grinnell, died May 5, 2016, in Iowa Falls.

A funeral service was held at First United Methodist Church in Iowa Falls on Monday, May 9, with the Rev. Carol Myers and Dr. Jeff Blackman officiating. Interment was in Union Cemetery at Iowa Falls. Casket bearers included Nathan Gillespie, Aaron Gillespie, Adam Gillespie, Drew Gillespie, Damien Dennis, Mike Dennis and Kyle Clinton. Honorary casket bearers were Cody Knott and Nick Tjarks.

Howard was born on Oct. 2, 1932, in Grinnell, the son of C. Ithel and Ruth McCulloch Gillespie. He attended schools in Newburg and Ladora, graduating from Newburg High School in 1951. On June 1, 1952, he married Lois D. Davis in Newburg. Howard enlisted in the U.S. Army on Jan. 13, 1953, with basic training at Ft. McCoy in Sparta, Wis., and was then assigned to an artillery division Ft. Carson in Colorado Springs, Colo. He completed his military career at Ft. Sill in Lawton, Okla., and was discharged on Jan. 5, 1955, with the rank of sergeant.

Upon discharge, he and Lois returned to Iowa, where he attended Iowa State University and graduated with a degree in agriculture in 1959. The family moved to Iowa Falls and then Bradford, where Howard was employed by Farmer's Cooperative Elevator as manager and grain dealer. They had three children, and eventually moved back to Iowa Falls in 1975. Following the death of his first wife, Lois, in February 1983, Howard married Marjory M. Crabtree on Sept. 2, 1983.

He was an active member of the Bradford and Iowa Falls First United Churches and served on various committees, including chair of the Garden Room project. He was an active Iowa Falls Kiwanis member and served as president. Howard enjoyed camping and fishing trips with friends and family. He was a member of the Bradford Fire Department and the Bradford School Board. In his later years, Howard enjoyed driving — for various trucking companies especially at harvest, a bus for Mid-Iowa Community Action Head Start, and his car to take local seniors to doctors' appointments all over central Iowa.

Howard is survived by his three children, Harlan Gillespie of Webster City, Cheryl Clark of Des Moines and Jim Gillespie of Iowa Falls; four step-children; nine grandchildren; six step-grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; 12 step-great-grandchildren; three sisters, Marilyn Rozendaal of Sully, and Eleanor Osland and Carolyn Risch, both of Grinnell; and many other relatives.

Howard was preceded in death by his parents; his first wife, Lois; his second wife, Marjory; and an infant step-grandson.