Michael Enich, district judge, dead here at 59

Honorary pallbearers will be Dr. Larry Ely, George Fry, Judge Arthur A. McGiverin, Roy Mushrush, Judge Charles N. Pettit, Herman Snider, and Clark Watkins.

Graveside rites will be conducted by W.H. Noel, commander; Edwin M. Richardson, chaplain; and members of the Grinnell Veterans Ceremonial Unit.

Burial will be at Hazelwood Cemetery.

Should friends desire, memorials in Judge Enich’s name may be made to the Grinnell Museum Society or the United Methodist Church.

District Court Judge Michael Enich, 59, was found dead shortly before noon Monday at his home at 1326 Spring St. here. J.Webb 2

Authorities ruled the death a suicide.

Judge Enich, who had been on leave from his judicial duties for several months because of illness, apparently took his life Saturday morning. Death was by hanging.

He had returned to his district court post briefly last week.

Funeral services for Judge Enich will be held at 1:30 p.m. today at the Grinnell United Methodist Church with the Rev. James P. Russell officiating. Music will be provided by Kathleen Hefner, organist, and Larry Robertson, vocalist. Pallbearers will include Judge L.R. Carson, Max Hawkins, Charles M. Manly, Judge Ira F. Morrison, A.J. May, Ray J. Peterson, Kenneth Pettit, and F.W. Tomasek.

Following his graduation from law school, he lived in Kansas City, where he was associated with the Socorey-Vacuum Oil Co. for 10 years. He and his former wife, the late Gladys Marjorie Bradley Enich, came to Grinnell to make their home, and he established his law practice here. In 1963, he was elected Poweshiek County attorney. He was appointed to the district court bench in November 1971 by Governor Robert Ray.

On Sept. 29, 1971, Judge Enich was married to Clarice Suit of Des Moines.

Memberships

Judge Enich was a member of the United Methodist Church, the Methodist Men’s Club, and he served on many lay committees of the church, including the administrative board. He was also a member of the American Legion, the Elks Club, the Lions Club, the VFW, and several legal societies and associations. He had served as president of the Grinnell Museum Society.

Survivors include his wife, Clarice; two step-children, Don C. Day of Minneapolis, Minn., and Mrs. John (Kathy) Irwin of Des Moines; four step-grandchildren; two brothers, Dan Enich of Atchison, Kan., and Mitchell Enich of Falls Church, Va.; and three sisters, Mrs. George (Hannah) Vignovich and Mrs. Sophie Kreutzer, both of Boone, and Miss Mildred Enich of Sauk St. Marie, Mich.

He was preceded in death by his parents.
'Iron Mike' inducted into Hall of Fame

The late Mike Enich, former district judge of Grinnell, became this year's 103rd inductee into The Des Moines Sunday Register's Iowa Sports Hall of Fame.

Enich, "Iron Mike," was a member of the 1939 "Iowa Ironmen," a group of football Hawkeyes that won the admiration of all sports fans by finishing 6-1-1.

Enich graduated from Iowa in 1941 with a degree in business administration where he promptly joined the U.S. Marines. After the service, he returned to Iowa to get his law degree and did legal work in Iowa and Kansas City until moving to Grinnell in 1962.

Grinnell was the hometown of his wife, the former Gladys Bradley, and he started to practice law. He was elected Poweshiek County attorney in 1966 and was appointed to the Iowa district court bench in 1971. Enich died at the age of 59 in 1978.

Michael Enich