Larry Howard Cook was born on December 15, 1942, in Grinnell, Iowa, to Howard Clair Cook and Mary Lorraine (Smith) Cook. He was raised in Montezuma, Iowa and graduated from Montezuma High School in 1961. Larry honorably served in the United States Navy from 1961 until 1965. He was stationed in Long Beach, California and Hawaii, respectively. On May 16, 1964, he was united in marriage to Mary K. Stewart at the Leon Christian Church in Leon, Iowa. The couple lived in Long Beach until Larry was honorably discharged from the Navy. They moved back to Iowa and resided in Grinnell, where Larry worked at United States Post Office for 27 years. Following his retirement, he also worked at Second Mile and People Rides in Grinnell.

Larry's family described him as an honest, quiet, loving, caring and easy-going man. His enjoyments were going on two-week vacations, rooting on the Iowa Hawkeyes, mowing his yard, going to Meskwaki Casino in Tama, taking bus tours, and collecting Steiff bears.

Larry is survived by his wife of 52 years, Mary Cook of Grinnell; his sons, Alan (Patty) Cook and Scott (Stacy) Cook, both of Grinnell; 6 grandchildren, Brian (Karen) Cook, Anthony Cook, Faith Rowland, Hope Rowland, Jacob Dunsberger, and Dylan Cook; his mother, Mary Cook of Montezuma; siblings, Sandra (Arlo) Hall of Waukee, Iowa, Robert Cook of West Des Moines, Iowa, and his special dog, Sara. He was preceded in death by his father; and a brother, James Cook.