Richard Glenn ‘Mike’ Ahrens

Richard Glenn “Mike” Ahrens, 81, Marshfield, passed peacefully into Life Eternal on Friday, March 17, 2017.

Born on April 27, 1935, in Grinnell, Iowa, to Lester and Lola (Pilgrim) Ahrens, Mike was the second of two sons. His brother, Robert, along with his parents, preceded him in death.

Mike was married on September 4, 1955, to Virginia Rose Turner in Grinnell. The couple raised three sons: Michael Ahrens, Marshalltown, Iowa; Steve and Carla Ahrens, Jefferson City; and Rob and Jennifer Ahrens, Marshfield. A son, John Martin, died at birth in 1960.

Mike earned a degree in Biology from Ottawa (Kansas) University. He was a teacher, coach, bus driver and farmer before working for his father-in-law at Turner Auto Salvage in Grinnell. The family moved to Rochester, Minnesota, in 1962 after Mike took a position with Farm Bureau as an insurance adjuster. Mike and Virginia relocated to Marshfield in December 1969 after purchasing the Chris Beattie Insurance Agency.

Mike was an active member of the Marshfield United Methodist Church and an enthusiastic participant in many community organizations such as Rotary and Odd Fellows, Webster Electric Foundation, Webster County Fair Board, Marshfield Country Club, Red Cross blood drives, Marshfield Fourth of July, Marshfield Athletic Boosters, Marshfield Fire Department and many others.

Mike loved to fish and bird hunt. He orchestrated family camping trips and was a memorable golf partner. He supported the local high school teams and was a lifelong fan of the Cleveland Indians.

Mike is survived by his wife of 61 years, Virginia, and the couple’s sons and their families including: grandchildren Elizabeth Libby Ahrens-Hafley and Kurt, Jefferson City; Jennifer Nicole Cummings and Jacob, Lee’s Summit; Stephanie Ahrens-Mills and Jerry, Kirkville; Brock Ahrens, Marshfield; Chelsea Lauren Ahrens, Marshfield; and Alyssa Ahrens, Springfield; and great-grandchildren Cole Ahrens and Abby Bax, Jefferson City; Caiden and Lincoln Cummings, Lee’s Summit; Evey Mills, Kirkville; and Bentley Ahrens, Marshfield. Other survivors include: two sisters-in-law, Sharon Voorhees, Cedar Falls, Iowa, and Jan Ahrens, Springfield; one brother-in-law, Hilliard Turner Jr., Grinnell; and a host of nieces, nephews and friends.

Visitation for Mike Ahrens was 6-7 p.m. on Tuesday, March 21, at the Marshfield United Methodist Church. Services were at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, March 22, at the church. To honor Mike’s wishes, memorial donations are encouraged to the Webster County Food Pantry or the United Methodist Church. Day Funeral Home, Marshfield, is in charge of arrangements. Online condolences may be made at www.dayfh.com.