

OBITUARIES

GRINNELL RESIDENT

Carl Klenk, 86



Carl Klenk, age 86, of Grinnell, died on Thursday, May 4, 2017, at St. Francis

Manor in Grinnell.

A funeral service was held Monday, May 8, 2017, at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell with Titus Lehman and Dennis Hause officiating. Pallbearers were Brandon, Brant and Loren Klenk, Justin McIlrath, Bryden Jones, and Justin Goodlaxson. Honorary bearers are Breanna McIlrath and Lisa, Melissa, Julia and Emma Klenk. Interment will be in Rector Cemetery near Chelsea.

Visitation Sunday at the Smith Funeral Home and his family will greet friends that evening.

Memorials may be designated to the Carl J. Klenk Memorial Fund, mailed in care of the Smith Funeral Home, PO Box 368, Grinnell, Iowa 50112. Condolences may be shared with his family online at www.smithfh.com.

Carl Joseph Klenk was born the son of Charlie and Bessie Alberta (Duda) Klenk on

July 14, 1930, near Chelsea, Iowa. He was raised on the family farm near Chelsea and graduated from Chelsea High School in 1947. Following his education, he worked on the family farm and at Dvorak Gas Station in Chelsea.

Carl was united in marriage to Donna Mae Jones on June 24, 1960, at her parent's home in Dumont, Iowa. The couple resided and farmed north of Brooklyn until 1969, when they moved to Grinnell. Carl worked for Badger Northland, Farmhand, DeLong's Sportswear, and Donaldson's respectively and retired from Donaldson's in July of 2004. He volunteered countless hours at Grinnell Regional Medical Center until October of 2014. They moved to Seeland Park in June of 2015.

Carl's family and faith were most important to him. At a young age, he accepted the gospel of Jesus and kept true to that choice until his death. He dearly loved the time together with his grandchildren and great grandchildren, especially their trips to the park and taking them for rides in his airplane. At the age

of 22, he found his love of flying and at the age of 29 he obtained his pilot's license. His last flight was with his grandchildren on his 60th birthday. Carl's family will remember him as a loving and caring father and grandfather, for his great sense of humor, and for the way in which he always would lend a hand to others in need.

Carl is survived by his wife, Donna Klenk of Grinnell; his sons, Darwin (Faye) Klenk of Malcom, Iowa and Duane (Beata) Klenk of Boulder, Colorado; 5 grandchildren, Brandon (Melissa) Klenk of Salt Lake City, Utah, Brant (Lisa) Klenk of Brooklyn, Iowa, Breanna (Justin) McIlrath of Grinnell, and Julia and Emma Klenk of Boulder, Colorado; 5 great grandchildren, Oliver, Karson, Kinley, and Kennedy Klenk, and Mason McIlrath; siblings, Doris Klenk of Overland Park, Kansas, Marilyn (Alan) Walker of Waterloo, Iowa, Carol (Harry) Black of Marion, Iowa, Jeannie VanLoon of Ankeny, Iowa, Janet Klenk of Bismark, North Dakota, and David (Janene) Klenk of Chelsea. He was preceded in death by his parents.

Carl Joseph Klenk

6/4-R
5-8-2017

Carl Klenk, age 86, of Grinnell, died on Thursday, May 4, 2017, at St. Francis Manor in Grinnell.

A funeral service was held at 10:30 a.m., Monday, May 8, 2017, at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell with Titus Lehman and Dennis Hause officiating. Pallbearers were Brandon, Brant and Loren Klenk, Justin McIlrath, Bryden Jones, and Justin Goodlaxson. Honorary bearers were Breanna McIlrath and Lisa, Melissa, Julia and Emma Klenk. Interment will be in Rector Cemetery near Chelsea.

Visitation began at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday at the Smith Funeral Home and his family greeted friends from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.

Memorials may be designated to the Carl J. Klenk Memorial Fund, mailed in care of the Smith Funeral Home, PO Box 368, Grinnell, Iowa 50112. Condolences may be shared with his family online at www.smithfh.com.

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