Jim Ver Steegh, 88 of New Sharon died June 10, at Northern Mahaska Specialty Care, Oskaloosa. Services will be at 10:30 a.m., June 16, at New Sharon United Methodist Church. Burial will be in the Friends Cemetery, New Sharon. Visitation is after 12 noon, June 15, with the family present from 5 to 7 p.m. at the funeral home. Memorial contributions may be made to Southern Iowa Fair or the North Mahaska Athletic Department.

Norman James Ver Steegh, the son of Harrison and Margaret (Stephens) Ver Steegh, was born March 20, 1929 in New Sharon. He was graduated from New Sharon High School in 1946.

Sept. 20, 1946, Jim was united in marriage to Helen Van Cleave. To this union four children were born, Steven, Benjamin, Christopher and Penny.

Jim’s passion was farming. He raised Angus cattle and farmed his entire life in the New Sharon area. He was a 3rd generation farmer and had the opportunity to farm with his son, Chris. Jim also surveyed for Ag Statistics, custom bailed and did several other summer jobs throughout his life. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, square dancing and taking trips to Branson, MO. He began camping at the Iowa State Fair with his parents in 1934 and continued to camp for the next 83 years never missing a year. He was an avid Chicago Cubs and Iowa Hawkeye fan. Jim was a big supporter of North Mahaska girl athletics and didn’t miss a softball game or basketball game for several years home or away. Jim was on the Southern Iowa Fair Board for 24 years serving as vice president.

His memory will be honored by his children, Christopher (Phyllis) Ver Steegh of New Sharon and Penny (Lynn) Hercheberger of New Sharon; 5 grandchildren, Paul (Suzette) Ver Steegh, Jackie (Mark) Obama, Jeri (Aaron) Hickle, Jess (Bobby) Jones and Jamie (Ben) Schelker; nine great grandchildren, and many other relatives and friends.

Jim was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Helen; an infant son, Benjamin Ver Steegh and a son Steven Ver Steegh and a grandson, Jeffrey Ver Steegh.