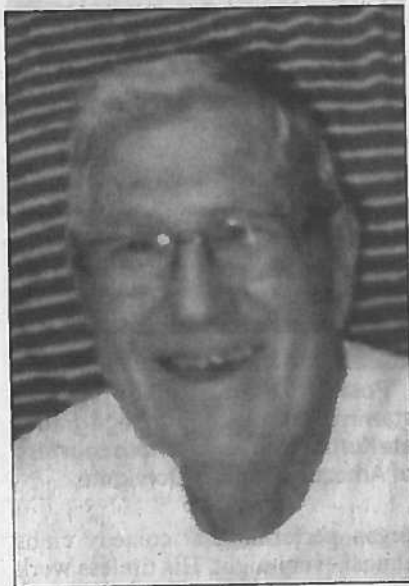


Frank Blazek

EH-R
7-24-2017



Frank Blazek, 83, of Grinnell, died Tuesday, July 18, 2017, surrounded by loved ones at his home in the Mayflower Community.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m., Wednesday, July 26, at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell with the Rev. Len Eberhart officiating. A gathering with the family will be held from 10 to 11 a.m. at the funeral home. Interment will be held at a later date at the Prairie Rose Cemetery in Corning, Iowa.

Should friends desire, memorials may be directed to the Mayflower Human Needs Fund or to Iowa River Hospice and sent in care of the Smith Funeral Home, P.O. Box 368, Grinnell, Iowa 50112.

Frank was born on May 7, 1934, in Cedar Rapids, to Louis and Helen Beville Blazek. He was raised in Cedar Rapids and graduated from Wilson High School with the Class of 1952. He continued his education at the University of Iowa and later graduated with a BA degree in Education from Coe College. He received his M.A. degree from the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville, Ark., and also received credit from the University of Madrid in Spain.

In April of 1953, he married Joanne T. Slocum in Cedar Rapids and they had four children. They divorced in 1965. In June of 1966, he married Dorothy "Dottie" Perry of Madrid, Iowa, and they had three children. The couple lived in Illinois, Arkansas, Texas and Colorado before moving to the Mayflower Community in Grinnell.

He taught high school Spanish for over 30 years, and also worked as a travel agent specializing in trips to South America. He enjoyed gardening, reading, traveling with Dottie and kolache. Spending time with family and friends was special to Frank as was his companionship with his dog "Lady."

Survivors include his wife, Dottie Blazek of Grinnell; his children, Deborah Carney of Cedar Rapids, Vickie Hill of Highlandville, Mo., Danni Blazek of Reynoldsburg, Ohio, Felisa Blazek of Brentwood, N.H., and Jonathan Blazek of Chicago, Ill.; 14 grandchildren; and nine great grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his step-mother, Edith; his half-brother, Howard F. Clark; his first wife, Joanne Blazek; two sons, Rick and Michael Blazek; and one grandson.