Bert Beekhuizen, 79, Pella

Bert Beekhuizen, 79, of Pella passed away Aug. 17, 2005. Funeral services were held Aug. 20, at the Calvary Christian Reformed Church in Pella. Burial was held at Bethel Cemetery near Tracy. Memorials can be given to Calvary Christian Reformed Church music department.

Bert Beekhuizen was born April 20, 1926, to Arnold and Bertha Jansen Beekhuizen. Arnold Beekhuizen immigrated from Holland in 1913. During the following years his two brothers and father joined him in America. Arnold left Holland leaving his girlfriend, Bertha, behind. He sent money for her boat fare. She arrived in America and they were married.

Bert married Marie Hol on Jan. 17, 1947, at her parent's home three weeks after her parents returned from Holland where they helped relatives rebuild their property after the war. Bert and Marie farmed from 1947 to 1959. Later he drove a milk truck, was employed at Vermeer Manufacturing, did custodial work at Webster School, and worked as the crossing guard at Lincoln School.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his two sisters, Alice Beekhuizen and Jo Kelderman; his brother, Arnold Jacob Beekhuizen; and his precious grandson, Brady Dahm.

Bert is survived by his wife of 58 years, Marie; his four children: Beverly and Darrel Van Veldhuizen of Eddyville; Marilyn and Jim Dean of Oskaloosa; Jim and Laura Beekhuizen of Palm Springs, California; Marla and Bryce Dahm of Pella; six grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; one brother, John Beekhuizen of Pella; two sisters: Grace Groenendyk of Urbandale, and Marie Van Maanen of Pella.