Keith Burnham

Keith Burnham, 49, of Grinnell died Tuesday, Jan. 3, 2006, at Veterans Medical Center in Des Moines.

A celebration of life service will be held Saturday, Jan. 7, at 1 p.m. at Grinnell Christian Church with Brian Chitwood officiating. A private family burial will take place at a later date at Hazelwood Cemetery. Friends may call at Smith Funeral Home Friday beginning at 12 noon with the family present from 6 to 8 p.m. Memorials may be sent to the American Cancer Society or Grinnell High School Gymnasium Fund in care of Smith Funeral Home, PO Box 368, Grinnell, 50112.

He was born Nov. 27, 1956, in Grinnell to Charles and Carolyn Larkins Burnham. He was raised in Grinnell and graduated from Grinnell High School with the class of 1975. He attended Cornell College in Mount Vernon. He was married on July 14, 1979, to Catherine Kidd in Cedar Rapids. He served with the United States Army from 1980 to 1984 during which he was stationed in Germany. He and his family lived in Des Moines and Cedar Rapids before moving to Grinnell in 1988. He worked in various departments of the United States Postal Service until his health failed recently.

He enjoyed nature and playing golf, and was avid Iowa Hawkeye, New York Yankee and Boston Celtic fan.

He is survived by his wife Cathy Burnham of Grinnell; two sons Maxwell Burnham of Moorhead, Minn., and Willie Burnham of Grinnell; his mother and stepfather, Carolyn and Bill Joslin of Hiawatha, Kan., and two brothers, Kevin Burnham of Oskaloosa and Kenny Burnham of Des Moines. He was preceded in death by his father on July 1, 2003.