James L. Evans, 68, of Grinnell and formerly of Montezuma died Friday, Dec. 9, at his home.

Funeral services for James Evans will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 13, at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell with the Rev. John Epperson, pastor of the Grinnell Christian Church, officiating. Pallbearers will include Matt Beaderstadt, Evan Gwin, Christopher Hamilton, Mike Marsh, Richard Marsh and Don Patten. Burial with military honors will follow in the I.O.O.F. Cemetery in Montezuma.

Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. today (Monday) at the Smith Funeral Home; the family will be present from 6 to 8 p.m.

Born on Feb. 19, 1937, in Iowa City, he was the son of Leo Frank and Mabel Nekolena Larsen Evans. He was raised in Searshoro and was a 1955 grad of Searshoro High School. He served in the U.S. Army from 1959 to 1962.

For many years, he farmed with his father and brothers in the Searshoro area. He retired from farming in 1984.

On Feb. 24, 1989, he married Betty Marie Evans in Montezuma. The couple made their home there prior to moving to Grinnell in 2004.

He was a member of the Grinnell Eagles Lodge, the American Legion and the Odd Fellows.

He is survived by his children, Erin Spencer of Gilman, Richard Marsh of Grinnell, Mike Marsh of Muscatine, Lorraine Patten and Linda Gerard, both of Grinnell, and Don Patten of Tiffin; a brother-in-law, Kenneth Beaderstadt of Newton; 19 grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife; a daughter, Patty Marsh; two brothers, George and Delmar Evans; a sister, Leona Beaderstadt; and two grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be directed to the James L. Evans Memorial Fund.
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Pallbearers were Matt Beaderstadt, Evan Gwin, Christopher Hamilton, Mike Marsh, Richard Marsh and Don Patten.

The son of Leo Frank and Mabel Neikolen Larsen Evans, he was born Feb. 19, 1937, at Iowa City. He was raised in Searsboro and was a 1955 graduate of Searsboro High School. He was a veteran of the United States Army having served from 1959 to 1962. For many years he farmed with his father and brothers in the Searsboro area and retired in 1984. On Feb. 24, 1989, he was married to Betty Marie Evans at Montezuma. The couple made their home in Montezuma prior to moving to Grinnell in 2004. He was a member of the Grinnell Eagles Lodge, American Legion and Odd Fellows.

Survivors include his children, Erin Spencer of Gilman, Richard Marsh of Grinnell, Mike Marsh of Muscatine, Lorraine Patten and Linda Gerard, both of Grinnell, and Don Patten of Tiffin; one brother-in-law, Kenneth Beaderstadt of Newton; 19 grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

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