Fred England, 87

Fred England, 87, of Grinnell died on April 17, 2018, at Grinnell Regional Medical Center. A funeral service was Saturday, April 21, at St. John's Lutheran Church in Grinnell with Vicar Kari Lee, officiating. Organist was Carolyn Bosse accompanied by Tom O'Reilly as vocalist. Burial will be in Memorial Park Cemetery in Muscatine.

Visitation was Friday, April 20, at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell with the family present Friday evening. Memorial contributions may be directed to St. John's Lutheran Church in Grinnell.

Fred was born on March 23, 1931, in Atkins, Iowa, the son of John White and Christina Katherine Barbara Rindermecht England. He was raised in the Atkins area and later moved to Muscatine where he was a 1949 graduate of Muscatine High School. He was a veteran of the United States Army and served during the Korean Conflict.

On May 17, 1952, he was united in marriage with Mittie Cathleen "Cathy" Jenkins, in Atlanta, Georgia. The couple lived in Cedar Rapids for a year and then moved to Muscatine in 1955, where he drove a bread truck. In 1967, the family moved to Clinton prior to making their home in Grinnell in 1969. While in Grinnell, he managed the Sears Store until 1985. From 1986 until his retirement in 2011, Fred was with Godfather's Pizza, located on the town square.

Following the death of his wife, Cathy, on April 19, 1977, he was married to Audrey White, on May 27, 1978, in Grinnell. After their divorce, he was married to Judy Kyle in Grinnell and they were later divorced.

Fred was an active member of St. John's Lutheran Church in Grinnell and had served on the church council. He held a strong faith! He was also a member of the Isak Walton League, Grinnell Vintage Car Club and the Grinnell Transportation Museum.

Fred was a proud father and for many years played a dual role as a parent. His family was always very important to him; he was their "life-line." He knew the value of hard work, was very determined, and instilled kindness amongst others. Fred was adventurous throughout his life. He enjoyed collecting cars and coins, playing cards and cooking. He held a good sense of humor and his laughter was infectious. He was considered a good salesman and always stood behind his product. He was a best friend to many!

He is survived by his children, Mark (Jerri) England of Omaha, Crayola (Carrie) England of Des Moines, Mitzi (Duane) Dufoe of Grinnell, and Mike (Heather) England of Grinnell; a son-in-law, Stan Havel of Grinnell; 13 grandchildren; and 21 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Cathy; his daughter, Barb Havel in 2014; two brothers, John and William England; and two sisters, Betty O'Reilly and Roberta Diercks.
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A funeral service was scheduled for 11 a.m. Saturday, April 21, at St. John’s Lutheran Church in Grinnell. Burial will be in Memorial Park Cemetery in Muscatine.

Visitation will be held from 2 to 8 p.m. Friday, April 20, at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell with the family present from 6 to 8 p.m. Friday evening.

Memorial contributions may be directed to St. John’s Lutheran Church in Grinnell.

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