Paul Peiffer, age 95, of Grinnell, died on Sunday, September 9, 2018, at St. Francis Manor in Grinnell.

Mass of the Resurrection will be held at 10:30 a.m. Friday, September 14th, at St. Mary’s Catholic Church in Grinnell with Fr. Ron Hodges presiding. Honorary bearers will be Nick Peiffer, Sam Peiffer, Tim Murty, Clinton Jarrett, Chris Pfantz, Nick Brooks, Andrew Hoopes, and Michael Mulligan. Readers will be Stephanie Hoopes and Madison Brooks.

Gift bearers will be Lisa Jarrett, Michelle Mulligan and Amy Murty. A private family burial with military honors will be held at Hazelwood Cemetery in Grinnell.

Visitation began at 2:00 p.m. Thursday, September 13th at the Smith Funeral Home and the family received friends from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.

Memorials may be designated to the Iowa Heart Association or the Wounded Warrior Project and mailed in care of the Smith Funeral Home, PO Box 368, Grinnell, Iowa 50112. Memories and condolences may be shared with Paul’s family online at www.smithfh.com.

Paul was born on June 18, 1923, in Keota, Iowa, to Elmer John and Beatrice (Dupuis) Peiffer. The family moved to Washington, Iowa, where he was raised and graduated with the Class of 1942 from Washington High School.

On January 15, 1943, he entered the United States Army at Camp Dodge near Des Moines. He served with Company E, 346th Engineers in the European Theatre. He was discharged from the military as a sergeant on November 21, 1945, at Fort Sheridan in Illinois. He returned home and began a long career with the Rock Island Railroad as a signal operator.

Paul was united in marriage with Bonnie Simpson on August 31, 1948, in Washington. The couple lived in various areas of the United States with his job. They moved back to Iowa and settled in Greene before moving to Clarksville. In 1966, the family moved to Grinnell to make their home. He retired from the Signal Department of the railroad in 1983.

Paul was a member of St. Mary’s Catholic Church and was a member of the “Back Pew Gang” at St. Mary’s. He enjoyed collecting and restoring antiques, working in his yard, and doing home improvements. He especially enjoyed following his grandchildren and great grandchildren in their school and sporting events. He was an avid fan of the Iowa Hawkeyes.

Paul is survived by his children, Debbi (Jerry) Murty of Tama and Matt (Ann) Peiffer of Grinnell; eight grandchildren; and 18 great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Bonnie, on March 12, 2016; and two sisters, Eleanor Dickinson and Barbara Steele.