Douglas William Kruse, 74, of Grinnell, left this earth to be with God on February 11, 2019, at Iowa Methodist Medical Center in Des Moines.

Funeral services are scheduled for Monday, February 18, at 10:30 a.m. at the Immanuel Lutheran Church in Grinnell. A visitation will be held at 9:30 a.m. with military honors 15 minutes prior to the service. The Rev. Dr. Joel G. Koepp will officiate. Organist will be Pam Haase. Pallbearers will be Ryan Ahrens, Mike Kruse, Todd Ahrens, Steve Sparks, Chad Buffington and Jason Buffington. Honorary bearers will be Maddi Kruse and Ashley Ahrens. Burial will be in Hazelwood Cemetery in Grinnell.

Visitation will be held from 12:00 noon to 5:00 p.m. Sunday at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell with the Kruse family present from 2:00 to 5:00 Sunday afternoon to greet family and friends.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be designated to the Doug Kruse Memorial Fund where all donations will be distributed among several places in the Grinnell community.

Doug was born on September 15, 1944, in Troy, Ohio, the son of Roy and Pauline Elias Kruse. He was raised on farms in Carroll and Crawford counties in Iowa and was a 1962 graduate of Manning High School, in Manning. He attended Drake University in Des Moines prior to enlisting in the United States Army during the Vietnam War. After his discharge, he later received his AA degree at Marshalltown Community College.

On June 6, 1965, he was united in marriage with Maralee McKibben, in Des Moines, Iowa. Their marriage brought three children, Michele, David, and Angie. They have been long-time residents of Grinnell, where Doug worked in sales before his retirement in 2012.

Doug was an active member of many organizations including the Grinnell Lions Club, where he transported corns for the Iowa Eye Bank; the American Legion where he worked with the Iowa Boys State program; and he also belonged to the Red Rock Thrashers, the Manning VFW, Missey Harris Tractor Club, and was a lifetime member of the NRA.

Doug was an active member of the Immanuel Lutheran Church and served as an Elder and Trustee.

He enjoyed spending time with his grandkids, driving for Grinnell College, and running the storage facility he owns with his son David.

Doug is survived by his wife, Maralee of Grinnell; his three children, Michele (Steve) Sparks of Norwalk, David Kruse of Newton, and Angie (Todd) Ahrens of Indiana; and grandchildren, Ryan Ahrens, Maddi Kruse, Ashley Ahrens, and Mike Kruse; one sister, Bette (Don) Peterson of Omaha; and other extended family members. He was preceded in death by his parents, Roy and Pauline Kruse; his stepmother, Lorraine Kruse; and one sister, Bonnie Buffington.
Douglas Kruse
Sept. 15, 1944 - Feb. 11, 2019

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