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Dennis Eugene Lamb

Dennis E. Lamb, 61, of Grinnell died on May 29, 2019, at Grinnell Regional Medical Center.

A graveside service and burial has been scheduled for 11:00 a.m. Wednesday, June 5, at Hazelwood Cemetery in Grinnell with his brother, Dale Lamb, officiating. Pallbearers will be Jacob Lamb, Larry Walz, Delmar Thompson, Steve Thompson, Darwin Kinne, Dirk Gersdorf, and Bill Smith. Honorary bearers will be Rick Burkett, John K. DeMeulenaere, Dennis Fleener, Chad Thompson, Rod Thompson and Timothy Walz.

Visitation with the family present will be held from 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Tuesday, June 4, at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell.

Memorial contributions may be designated to the Dennis E. Lamb Memorial Fund.

Dennis Eugene Lamb was born on November 8, 1957, in Grinnell, the son of Merle Allen and Ruth Kathryn (Parker) Lamb. He was baptized and confirmed at St. John's Lutheran Church. He was raised in Grinnell, is an Eagle Scout and a 1976 graduate of Grinnell-Newburg High School. Dennis graduated from Grinnell College in 1980, with a teaching certificate and art major.

While growing up in Grinnell, Denny de-tasseled corn for Dekalb, and partnering with his brother shoveled snow and mowed numerous lawns in his neighborhood for the big money of \$3.00 to \$5.00 a yard. For many years he was a paper carrier for The Des Moines Register; he later assisted with Grinnell Herald-Register routes and delivery for exercise and found himself delivering to some of his childhood subscribers. He still has the same bicycle he used in the 1960s.

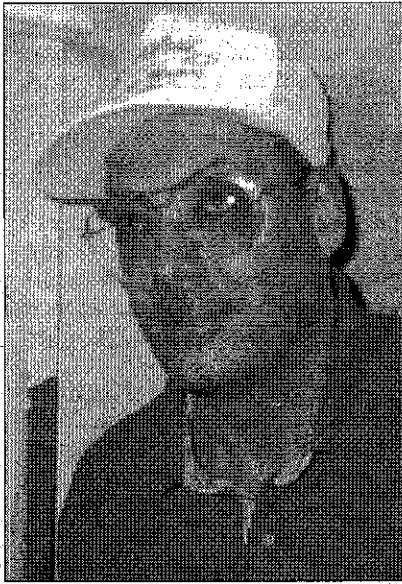
After college, Dennis taught school, both full-time and as a substitute, in the Grinnell School District and other area schools; children were dear to him. Den also worked a short while with GTE. For many years now he has been caretaker of the Lamb Building and served as an on-demand receptionist and all around helper at his brother's law office.

Dennis devoted his life to his family, especially to his sister, Diane, and his love for family was evident in his many caretaking roles at home and adventures with them to dances, sports events, the casino and Iowa State Fair. For Denny it was simply his payback for his dad and mom's loving nurturing and mom's superb cooking. He lovingly fawned over the family pets; their last, a shih tsu named Susu. Denny was quiet-natured with a deadpan delivery of his keen contemplative sense of humor; his insightful retorts contributed to many a conversation and Herald-Register editorial. Dennis as an art major held a love for painting and filled the family home with treasured works and gifted many to family members. Pencil-drawn muscle cars, blazing Road Runner and Wile E. Coyote cartoon figures deluged his little nephew, Jacob, who Den regularly battled in video games despite Den's disadvantage of maturity (age). Den enjoyed music and beat the drums and played bass guitar in his youth. He was a model car-builder and collector of Hot Wheels cars since his childhood; the first cars he bought to drive were the original "Muscle" cars.

A pretty good athlete, Dennis enjoyed sports and its camaraderie; he set a junior high record for the gym class rope climb, ran cross country, and in track specialized in sprints and relay teams. During baseball season his fastball stung big brother's catching hand enough for big brother to gladly let dad take over as catcher. When a little league pitcher, Denny once struck out 17 batters in a single game!

Dennis held a strong faith and breadth of biblical knowledge that he eagerly shared with others when asked. Den was a buddy to many and a friend to all; a Good Samaritan who always had time for others. His humility would have left this obituary half this length had he drafted it. His near lifelong battle with health issues and drive to assist others in similar predicaments made him a very resilient and positive man who would not succumb easily; he always fought till the last pitch was thrown, the last arrow fired, and more often than not it was done for those around him and not himself. He leaves immeasurable boots to fill but expects everyone to keep kicking to the very end; life was simple to him, just lead by example. When we do we will know he is present. Thank you, Lord, for this child of yours.

Survivors include his parents, Merle and Ruth Lamb; his brother, Dale (Mary) Lamb; his sister, Diane Lamb; his nephew, Jacob Lamb; all of Grinnell; and many extended family members and friends.



Dennis Lamb

Dennis Lamb, 61, of Grinnell, died May 29, 2019, at Grinnell Regional Medical Center. Services are pending at Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell. Memories and condolences may be shared with the family online at www.smithfh.com.

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