Kenneth M. Adams

Kenneth Adams, 77, of Newburg died Wednesday, Jan. 17, 2007, at his home after a five-year battle with cancer, while under the care of his loving family and Grinnell Regional Hospice. Funeral services for Kenneth Adams were held at 10:30 a.m. today (Monday) at Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell, with the Rev. Walt Claussen, pastor of the Newburg-Chester Congregational Church, officiating. Burial will be held privately at Mt. Pleasant Cemetery near Newburg.

He was born Sept. 19, 1929, in Grinnell, the 10th of 11 children of Charles and Lela Utley Adams. He was raised on the family farm near Newburg and attended Grinnell schools. He was a gifted athlete in high school and excelled in track, basketball and football. He graduated from Grinnell High School with the Class of 1948.

He married Betty Jean Bennington of Newburg on Aug. 1, 1948, at the Newburg Congregational Church. The couple built and made their home near Newburg, where they lived their lives. He worked at Tennes Lumberyard in Newburg and at Holland Plastics in Gilman before starting work with his brother at Thompson-Adams Construction of Grinnell.

He was a member of the Newburg-Chester Congregational Church and of the Grinnell Eagles Aerie No. 2545, where he was past president and held the post of secretary-treasurer for 18 years.

During his retirement, he volunteered to drive for those who were not able to.

He enjoyed gardening, dismantling old cars to recycle their parts, and watching televised sports, especially the Iowa Hawkeyes. He was a Hawkeye football season ticket holder for over 30 years.

He is survived by his wife; his children, Teresa Innis of Iowa City, Vicki Smith of Newburg and Chandler Adams of Newburg; nine grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild; his brothers, Virgil Adams of Kansas City, Mo., and Clayton Adams of Ashville, N.C.; and his sisters, Lucille Ackerman of Omaha, Neb., and Maxine Thompson of Gilman.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his brothers, Leonard "Red," Raymond and Melvin Adams; and his sisters, Dorothy Adams, Wanda Adams and Beulah Corrick.

Memorials may be directed to the Kenneth M. Adams Memorial Fund to benefit Grinnell Regional Hospice and the Grinnell High School athletic department.
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Kenneth Adams, 77, of Newburg died Wednesday, Jan. 17, 2007, at his home.

A funeral service will be held Monday, Jan. 22, at 10:30 a.m. at Smith Funeral Home. Private family interment will take place at Mount Pleasant Cemetery, rural Newburg. Friends may call at Smith Funeral Home Sunday beginning at 12 noon with family members present from 2 to 4 p.m.