Walton De Cook, 83, New Sharon

Walton W. De Cook, age 83 of rural New Sharon, passed away on June 22, 2006, at the Comfort House in Pella. Funeral services were held June 26, at the First Reformed Church in Sully with Pastor David Pinkerton of the Taintor Community Church and Pastor Brice Hoyt officiating. Interment was held in the Friends Cemetery in New Sharon. Memorials may be made to the New Sharon Fire & Rescue Unit or to the Comfort House in Pella.

Walton William DeCook, son of Arie F. and Jennie Huyser DeCook, was born on Dec. 26, 1922, at his home south of Sully on the Jasper/Mahaska County line. He attended the Iron Clad School until age 12 when he and his family moved southwest of Sully. He then attended Sully school through the eighth grade. He helped his parents farm and raise feed turkeys for several years.

On Dec. 26, 1947, Walton was united in marriage to Nellie Fay Zwank at the Little Brown Church in Nashua. He had baled hay around Sully and worked for the Sully Co-op hauling hogs to Ottumwa before moving to a farm south of Sully in 1951. In 1953, he moved to a farm south of Taintor where he raised hogs and feed cattle until settling on an acreage west of New Sharon in 1984. Walton continued to farm and began DeCook Trucking in 1981, hauling grain. He sold his farm machinery in 2002 but continued to haul grain. He enjoyed restoring tractors and was very active in tractor pulling in the 1970's. He was inducted into the Iowa Tractor Pulling Association's Hall of Fame in 2003. Walton made his profession of faith in 1973 at the First Reformed Church in Sully and also attended the Taintor Community Church.

Walton's memory is honored by his wife, Nellie Fay of rural New Sharon; his two sons and their wives, Gary and Jo DeCook and Terry and Lea DeCook all of New Sharon; his five grandchildren, Joshua, Jacob and Jami DeCook and Tiffany and Tasha DeCook; two sisters, Gertrude Goodyk and husband Pete, Anna Mae Nikkel and husband Jim all of Sully; and a brother, Armand DeCook and wife Frances also of Sully; his step-mother-in-law, Artie Zwank of Pella; several nieces and nephews and many good friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a sister-in-law, Jeanetta Dunwoody and husband Glen; a brother-in-law, Jacob A. Zwank; his father-in-law Bennie Zwank and Bennie's first wife Jennie (Vos) Zwank.