Delmar Howard, 84, of Grinnell died June 1, 2006, at Mayflower Health Center. A memorial service will be held Monday, June 12, at 10:30 a.m. at Smith Funeral Home with interment at Hazelwood Cemetery. Friends may call at the funeral home Sunday from 4 to 6 p.m. with family members present to greet friends. Memorials may be made to Newburg-Chester Church, Grinnell Regional Hospice or the Newburg American Legion.

He was born Nov. 2, 1921, in Laurel to James and Dora E. Howard. He was a graduate of Laurel High School and served in the United States Army during World War II. Following his discharge, he met his wife Margie with whom he celebrated 57 years of marriage. He was active in his church, singing in the church choir most of his life. He farmed in the Laurel and Newburg areas until 1985 when he retired and moved into Grinnell. The Howards enjoyed many trips by car, bus or plane to visit family and friends. A highlight of their travels was a trip by automobile to Alaska in 1999. Following the death of his wife in 2003, he continued living in their home, enjoying gardening and trying new dessert recipes until he moved into Mayflower in December 2005.

A highlight of his recent years was a trip to Washington, D.C., with his son Kevin, also a veteran of the United States Army, and his grandson Dustin Howard, currently serving in the United States Army in Germany.

He is survived by three daughters, Doris Fitzgerald of Springfield, Mo., Carole Sampson of Grinnell and Sharon Hansen of Iowa City; one son, Kevin Howard of Urbandale; 12 grandchildren; one great-granddaughter; two sisters, Margaret Fuller of Marshalltown and Ruth Howard of Hoffman Estates, Ill., and two brothers, George Howard of Marshalltown and Donald Howard of Laurel. He was preceded in death by his parents, three sisters, Madeline Speas, Virginia Murdock and Anzel Kinnard; one brother Kenneth Howard and one grandson.