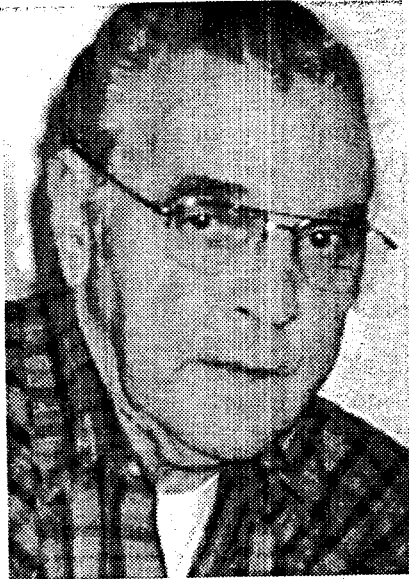


Rod Johnson



GH Jul 17 2006

Rod Johnson, 71, of Grinnell died on Friday, July 14, 2006, at Grinnell Regional Medical Center.

Funeral services for Rod Johnson will be held at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, July 18, at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell, with the Rev. John Epperson, pastor of the Grinnell Christian Church, officiating. Pallbearers will include Michael and Steven Hughes, Bradley Johnson, Jeff Neville, Ryan Thomasson and Wade Wiand. Honorary bearers will include Brandon Cotton, Mario Kaehn and Curtis Sieck. Burial will be in Hazelwood Cemetery in Grinnell.

Visitation will be held from noon to 8 p.m. today (Monday) at the Smith Funeral Home; the family will be present from 6 to 8 p.m.

Born April 4, 1935, in Algona, he was the son of Charles "Ted" and Ethel Kelley Johnson. He was raised and received his education in Algona and was employed for several years at Universal Manufacturing there. He moved to Grinnell in 1966 and worked with Miracle Recreation, then drove a truck for Grinnell Livestock.

He married Helen Innis Hugnes on Feb. 12, 1971, in Newton. The couple made their home in Grinnell until they moved to Eagle Grove in 1973. There, he drove a truck for ADS Trucking and later UMTHUN Trucking. He also served as president of the UTEA for several years. He retired in 2000 and the couple returned to Grinnell.

He is survived by his wife; four stepchildren, Beverly Neville of Williamsburg, Pat Richardson of Grinnell, Sandra Hughes of Minneapolis, Minn., and Ronald Hughes of Everett, Wa.; five sisters, Elizabeth Byrne of Algona, Virginia Baxter of Lone Rock, Lois Brinkema of Kamrar, Shirley Metzger of Ames and Janell Kickbush of Clear Lake; two brothers, Curtis Johnson of Grinnell and Robert Johnson of Clear Lake; seven grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; two brothers, Charlie and Kenny; and three sisters, Darlene, Marion and Joann, in infancy.

Memorial contributions may be directed to the Rod Johnson Memorial Fund.