John Vance

John Vance of Cape Girardeau, Mo., formerly of Grinnell, died April 15, 2006, at St. Francis Medical Center in Cape Girardeau after several years of suffering from Lyme disease.

A visitation was held April 17 followed by a memorial service on April 18 in Cape Girardeau.

He was born Dec. 16, 1935, in Lincoln, Neb., the son of Stanley and Lillian Tow Vance. He was raised on a farm near Dysart where he attended the Geneseo Consolidated School. After graduating from high school he attended the University of Nebraska in Lincoln. He was married in February, 1958, to Barbara Hagen of Oak Brook, Ill. They farmed near Dysart, operating Vance & Son Hereford Farm. They moved to Grinnell in 1977 where he worked for Chief Alfa. In 1985 they moved to Glen Allen, Mo., where he managed the Teen Challenge Farm until forced to retire in 1999 because of ill health.

He is survived by his wife Barbara of Cape Girardeau; two sons, Steven of Chanhassen, Minn., and Bill of Glen Allen; two daughters, Mary Rodriguez of Payson, Utah, and Laurie Vance of Charlotte, N.C., and two sisters, Shirley Sears of Grinnell and Ellen Brutsman of Plymouth, Minn. He was preceded in death by his parents.