MALCOM - Russell L. Tuttle, 96, of Malcom died on July 7, 2021, at his home of natural causes

Funeral services were held 10:30 a.m. Monday, July 12th, at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell with Rev. John Epperson officiating. Pallbearers were Joel Goodrich, Eric Hodina, Jerry McKusker, and Brandon, Jason, and Larry Tuttle. Honorary bearers were Andrea Goodrich and Christina Willis. Burial was in Ivy Hill Cemetery in Malcom. Memorial contributions may be designated to the Malcom United Methodist Church or Ivy Hill Cemetery Association.



Russell was born on May 20, 1925, on the family farm, near Victor, the son of Bernard Stanley and Edna Mae Hiner Tuttle. He was born, one of nine children. He grew up on the family farm in Poweshiek County, and went to the second grade in a country school. He then attended public schools in Victor and graduated with the class of 1943. After this time, the only thing he regretted was not able to join his classmates in World War II.

Russell was determined to be a farmer like his dad and four brothers. The only things he did not do on the farm as a boy was hand milk cows, harness or drive horses, he did all the rest of the work. He lived and worked on the family farm, north of Victor, until 1946.

On January 19, 1946, he was united in marriage to Mary Frances Ballard of Grinnell. A union of 68 years, 5 months, and 17 days. The couple lived briefly in Des Moines and he was employed at Globe Auto Hoist Factory (making 68 cents per hour). He returned to farming later that year and with the help of his dad, they bought an 80-acre grain and livestock farm near Malcom. He continued working with livestock until 1963 when I-80 was developed and split his land in half. He and Mary decided to keep their home and the remaining land they had and this is when he began doing interior carpentry work, selling custom made cabinets and woodworking.

In 1967, he added to his operation a new truck and car wash and laundromat in Malcom. In the early 1970's, he added to the laundromat building a store to display his custom cabinets "Decorative Kitchens." He retired from the carpentry and cabinet business in 1982, and thereafter, for over 33 years, he continued his woodworking business from his shop at home.

Russell enjoyed tractor rides, playing cards with family and friends, fishing, traveling, including visiting 39 states and 3 provinces of Canada and both the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. He enjoyed playing Rolle Bolle, camping, and being with family on holidays and birthdays.

Russell was blessed with three children, Rusty (Irlene) Tuttle, Jr. of Malcom, Jack (Linda) Tuttle of Bloomfield, and Shari Goodrich of Grinnell; eight grandchildren; 27 great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Mary on July 6, 2014; and eight siblings, Howard, Earl, Bud, Vera and Pat Tuttle, Fern McKusker, Edna Marie Shephard, and Deloris Schmidt.

7-21-2021

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