Larry Ely, 64, of St. Paul, Minn., formerly of the Grinnell area, died Thursday, Jan. 17, 2008, in Mobile, Ala., where he was wintering.

A funeral service was held Wednesday, Jan. 23, at Smith Funeral Home with the Rev. Len Eberhart, pastor of Grinnell United Methodist Church, officiating. Pallbearers were Donnie Briggs, Brad Cook, Rod Felton, Bryan Myers and Joel Skarin. Burial was in Hazelwood Cemetery. Memorials may be made to the Larry Ely Memorial Fund.

The son of Laurel and Mary Kathryn Brozovich Ely Sr., he was born Oct. 23, 1943, in Montour. He was a graduate of Melbourne High School and a veteran of the United States Army during the Viet Nam conflict. He was self-employed for many years.

He was a caring and kind-hearted individual, knew the value of hard work and enjoyed fishing with his family and socializing with family and friends.

He is survived by his son Christopher Ely of Montezuma; his daughter Tami Cook of Belle Plaine; three sisters, Florine Good of Ames, Nancy Stevens of Maricopa, Ariz., and Lucinda “Suzie” Shook of Omaha, Neb.; two brothers, Laurel Ely Jr. of Ames and Tommy Ely of Glenwood and eight grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents; one son Shannon Ely in 2004; one brother, Francis Ely, and four sisters, Georgia Ely, Mary Myers, Flossie Jean Ely and Sara Jane McClanahan.