Ronald Gandstaff

Ronald Gandstaff, 81, of Knoxville, formerly of Grinnell, died Tuesday, Nov. 13, 2007, at the Veterans Medical Center in Knoxville.

A graveside service will be held at a later date at Hazelwood Cemetery in Grinnell. Smith Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

He was born Feb. 17, 1926, in Sidney, Iowa, the son of George and Winifred Proctor Gandstaff. He moved to Grinnell with his family and attended Grinnell schools. During World War II, he served with the United States Navy in the South Pacific theater of war. Following his service at the end of the war, he returned to Grinnell and worked for local auto dealers as well as at Farmhand. In addition he worked as a pipefitter for Husky Oil Company in California and Wyoming. He resided in Oskaloosa prior to his death.

He was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and enjoyed animals and music. He played the guitar with "Ron and the Ramblers" in his youth.

He is survived by his children, Diane Gandstaff, Randy Gandstaff and Megan Mart of Grinnell; Dan Gandstaff of Mason City; Bill Gandstaff of Lehigh, Fla., and Mike Gandstaff of Marshalltown; 17 grandchildren, ten great grandchildren and three sisters, Claudine Koger of Wheatland, Wyo., Shirley Harter of Montezuma and Mary Curry of Deep River. He was preceded in death by his parents and one grandson.