Mel Rummelhart

Mel Rummelhart, 73, of Grinnell died Monday, Nov. 12, 2007, while fishing at Rock Creek Lake, rural Grinnell.

A Mass of the Resurrection will be held Friday, Nov. 16, at 10:30 a.m. at St. Mary’s Catholic Church with the Rev. Brian Shipley, pastor of St. Bridget’s Catholic Church in Victor, and The Rev. Mr. Steve Witt, deacon of St. Mary’s Catholic Church, officiating. Music will be provided by Marilyn Kreigel, organist, and St Mary’s Church Choir. Casket bearers will be Gary Clinch, John Hoyt, Greg McManus, Gene Hauser, Phil Maher and Denny Pulls. Honorary bearers will be Reese and Conner Hoyt, Dalton McManus, and Riley and Caiden Hauser. Interment will be Saturday at 11 a.m. at St. Joseph’s Cemetery in Iowa City. Friends may call at Smith Funeral Home Thursday beginning at 12 noon with family members present from 5 to 8 p.m. Memorials may be directed to Progress Industries in Newton or to the Tuberous Sclerosis Foundation in care of Smith Funeral Home, PO Box 368 Grinnell 50112.

He was born Aug. 1, 1934, to Clair and Emma Shrdel Rummelhart in Hills, Iowa, where he was raised and attended school. He graduated from City High School in Iowa City with the class of 1952 and from 1956 to 1958 served with the United States Army in Korea. He was united in marriage on Aug. 22, 1959, to Sally Littrell in Hills. The couple lived in Iowa City where he worked for Jaydon Distributors. The family moved to Grinnell in 1971 where he owned and operated V&M Sales, later working as a regional supervisor for the HyVee Food Corporation. He retired in 1997.

He was a member of St. Mary’s Catholic Church in Grinnell, the Knights of Columbus and the Grinnell Eagles Lodge. He enjoyed fishing, hunting, woodworking and playing cards. He also was an avid fan of the Iowa Hawkeye and Chicago Cubs teams.

He is survived by his wife Sally Rummelhart of Grinnell; five daughters, Deb Clinch of Grinnell, Deanne Hoyt of New Port Richey, Fla., Laurie Rummelhart of Newton, Julie McManus of Buffalo Prairie, Ill., and Missy Hauser of Mount Vernon; ten grandchildren and two sisters, Rita Maher of Cedar Rapids and Joan Abercrombie of Barstow, Calif. He was preceded in death by his parents and one daughter, Susie Rummelhart, in 1965.