

## Robert Bates

Robert Bates, 83, of Newton died Sunday, July 27, 2008, at Skiff Medical Center in Newton.



His body has been cremated. Memorial services will be held Thursday, Aug. 7, at 2

p.m. at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Newton. No visitation is planned. Burial will be in Union Cemetery in Newton. Memorials may be made to Jasper County Hospice. On-line condolences or guest-book signatures may be made at [www.hollandcoblefuneralhome.com](http://www.hollandcoblefuneralhome.com).

Robert Clarence Bates, the son of Jasper and Minnie Spurling Bates, was born Jan. 17, 1925, in rural Ames. He entered the United States Army in May 1943 during which he served in Iran during World War II and received several awards. Following the war, he attended trade school in New York while still in the service. He was honorably discharged in 1946. In 1961, along with his brother Loren, he joined the United States Air Force, and they were stationed in Topeka, Kan.

On May 27, 1956, he was united in marriage with Wanda Sturtz at the Little Brown Church in Nashua. In 1962 they located in Newton where they owned and operated Bates Electric for many years. He enjoyed camping, fishing, anything associated with the latest technology and, above all, his grandchildren and great grandchildren.

He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Wanda; two sons, Dennis Bates of Grinnell and Brad Bates of Newton; two daughters, Wendy Kiess of Des Moines and Darcy Kruse of Firestone, Colo; seven grandchildren; three great grandchildren, one brother, Loren Bates of West Point, Calif., and one sister Cleo Kalsem of Ames. He was preceded in death by his parents; two sons, Patrick and Ronald Bates; one brother, Carl Bates, and one sister, Nellie Cline.

GH 8/4/08