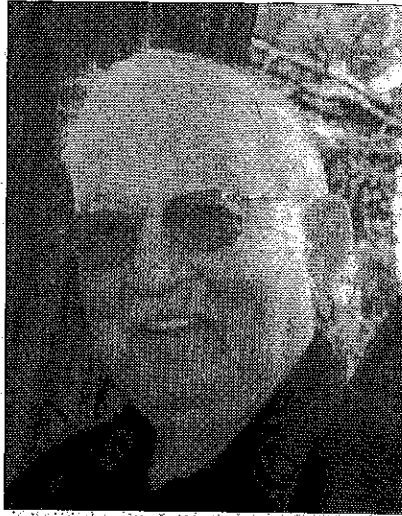


## Charles E. Douglas, Sr.



Charles E. Douglas, Sr., 72, of Grinnell died Thursday, Oct. 9, 2008, at Iowa Methodist Medical Center in Des Moines.

A funeral service will be held Tuesday, Oct. 14, at Smith Funeral Home with John Epperson, pastor of Grinnell Christian Church, officiating. Interment will be at Hazelwood Cemetery. Visitation will begin at 12 noon on Monday at the Smith Funeral Home with family members present to greet friends from 5 to 8 p.m. Memorials may be made to the Charles E. Douglas, Sr. Memorial Fund. Online condolences may be submitted to the Douglas family at [www.smithfh.com](http://www.smithfh.com).

He was born, the son of Maurice and June Andes Douglas, in Malcom. He was raised on the family farm and educated at rural schools near his home. He graduated from BGM High School in Brooklyn with the class of 1954.

He enlisted in the United States Air Force on July 21, 1954, in Des Moines and served in the United States, England and occupied Germany. He was honorably discharged from active duty on Oct. 31, 1974, at Vance Air Force Base in Oklahoma.

He was united in marriage with Ruby Lee Criswell on Oct. 10, 1956, in Grinnell. Upon his retirement from the United States Air Force, he worked at several businesses in Grinnell including Farmhand, McNally's, Grinnell Beverage, Cargill, Manatts, Donaldson's and Grinnell Mutual Reinsurance. He was an outdoorsman who enjoyed fishing, hunting and trapping. He also enjoyed listening to bluegrass music, attending auctions, collecting toys, gardening, yard work, and watching the finches in his back yard.

He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Ruby Douglas of Grinnell; his children, Brenda Lowry of Kellogg, Cheryl Banzhaf of Marshalltown, Vicky Zeltman of Eldora, Connie Thompson of Montezuma, Charles Douglas, Jr. of Pella, Rhonda Carroll of Newton, and Tammy Machin of Kellogg; 19 grandchildren; 17 great grandchildren; his brother, Ray Douglas of Bettendorf; and his sisters, Grace LaKose of Brooklyn, Jan Douglas of Des Moines, and Kay Rohm of Marysville, Calif. He was preceded in death by his parents; his brothers, Loren and Maurice Jr.; and his grandson T.J. Douglas.

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