Don Fahlenkamp, 83, of Montezuma, died early Thursday, Feb. 26, 2009, at Grinnell Regional Medical Center.

A Celebration of Life service will be held at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, March 4, at the Montezuma United Methodist Church. His body was donated to the University of Iowa Medical College.

Memorials may be directed to the Montezuma Food Pantry and sent in care of the Smith Funeral Home, P.O. Box 368, Grinnell, IA 50112.

Don was born on Aug. 1, 1925, in Hartley, to Lloyd and Clara Scholemann Fahlenkamp. He was raised on the family farm and attended school in Hartley. Following his education, he assisted with chores on the family farm. During World War II, he served with the United States Navy and was stationed on the USS Little Rock.

On April 1, 1946, he was married to Yvonne Collias of Humboldt. The couple lived in Kimbleton, before moving to Montezuma in 1952. Don has been employed as Superintendent of the Montezuma Municipal Light and Power Company for 55 years. His most recent accomplishment being the purchase of a wind generator for the City of Montezuma.

Don served as Fire Chief of the Montezuma Volunteer Fire Department for 31 years, and was Past President of the Iowa Association of Municipalities. He was a member of the Montezuma American Legion and the Montezuma Lions Club. Don enjoyed cooking for the United Methodist men. He was a life-time member of the Poweshiek County Sportsman’s Association. His hobbies included bowling, fishing, hunting, woodworking and trap shooting.

He is survived by his wife, Yvonne Fahlenkamp; his children, Sharon (Danny) Oliver of Oskaloosa, Lanny (Carolyn) Fahlenkamp of Aurora, Colo., jacque (Howard) Johnston, Michael (Vicki) Fahlenkamp, Lana (Jack) Taylor, Patricia Collins (Marty Constantino), and Lewis James Fahlenkamp, all of Montezuma; 15 grandchildren; 28 great-grandchildren; and one sister, Joyce Palmaymesa of Modesto, Calif.

He was preceded in death by his parents; one grandson, Troy Fahlenkamp; one sister, Arlene Marsh; and four brothers, Robert, Harold, Alvin and James Fahlenkamp.
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