M. Lawrence Den Hartog, 73, of Grinnell, formerly of Eddyville, died Thursday, Jan. 15, 2009, at SW Florida Regional Medical Center in Fort Myers, Fla.

A funeral service was held Thursday, Jan. 22, at Eddyville United Methodist Church with the Rev. Jason Gutzmer officiating. Burial was in Highland Cemetery in Eddyville with military rites by O.B. Nelson Post #3, of the American Legion and Walter B. Schafer Post #775, Veterans of Foreign Wars. Memorials have been established to Indian Hills Community College Foundation and the Eddyville United Methodist Church.

He was born Oct. 27, 1935 in Oskaloosa to John C. and Ella Lobberecht Den Hartog. He married Dorothy Brinegar Sept. 30, 1956. He served in the United States Army for 18 months in Germany. A graduate of Eddyville High School in 1953, and of Indian Hills Community College in Computer Maintenance, he taught computer maintenance at Indian Hills Community College for five years.

He was president and owner of Den Hartog Bros. Meats, Inc. in Eddyville and president and owner of Sho-Me Container, Inc. in Grinnell, retiring in 2006.

He was a member of Eddyville United Methodist Church, past president of Iowa Association of Meat Processors, past president and member of the board of directors of American Meat Processors Association, a member of the board of directors of Priority Plastics and a board member of Indian Hills Community College Development Corporation.

He enjoyed painting and woodworking.

Surviving are his wife, Dorothy; a daughter, Jovita Donnelly of Ottumwa; two grandchildren, a sister, Helen C. Maloy of Oskaloosa and a brother, Kenneth D. Den Hartog of Oskaloosa.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a son, John Robert Den Hartog and a brother, John Junior Den Hartog.