Kenneth M. Keenan

Kenneth M. Keenan, 80, of Marshalltown, formerly of Grinnell, died Sunday, July 13, 2008, at Marshall-town Medical and Surgical Center.

A funeral service was held Thursday, July 17, at Smith Funeral Home with Jim Hartman, pastor of Whitten Community Church, officiating. Memorials may be made to Special Olympics of Iowa or the Association of Retarded Citizens of Iowa, and sent in care of Smith Funeral Home, PO Box 368, Grinnell IA 50112. Condolences may be sent to the family via www.smithfh.com.

He was born Jan. 16, 1928, on a farm near Rock Creek Lake in Jasper County to Patrick and Gertrude Andersen Keenan. He attended rural school in Jasper County and graduated with the Class of 1946 from Grinnell High School. Following his education he worked for the former United Food Store in Grinnell.

On May 18, 1952, he was united in marriage with Marilyn Gillespie in Newburg. Together they raised six children. They farmed near Kellogg and Gilman before moving to a farm in the Rock Creek neighborhood in 1985. Following his retirement, he continued to farm on a smaller scale.

His long-time companion was Elva Weaver of Marshalltown. They shared a home and many friends in Marshalltown for the past ten years.

As an active farmer, he believed in the social and political support of the Grange provided for farm families. He was a member of Victor Grange and held several offices at the local, county and state levels of the National Grange organization. He also served on the Grinnell-Newburg School board from 1973 to 1977.

He is survived by his daughter and sons, Pamela Armstrong Vogel of Des Moines, Shirley Keenan of Perry, Gary Keenan of Des Moines, Marcia McKelvey of Decorah, Janet Keenan of Grinnell and Glen Keenan of Fairfield; 15 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; one brother, Darrel Keenan of Grinnell; one sister, Donna Lee McAllister of Eldora; and his long-time companion, Elva Weaver of Marshalltown. He was preceded in death by his parents; one brother, Hulvis Keenan; and one granddaughter.

GH 7/17/08
Kenneth M. Keenan

Kenneth M. Keenan of Marshalltown, formerly of Grinnell, died Sunday, July 13, 2008, at Marshalltown Medical and Surgical Center.

A funeral service will be held Thursday, July 17, at 10:30 a.m. at Smith Funeral Home. Visitation will take place Wednesday, July 16, from 6 to 8 p.m. Arrangements are being handled by Smith Funeral Home.