Max Roeder, 82

Max Roeder, 82, of What Cheer, died Thursday, June 4, 2009, at the Mahaska County Hospital. Funeral services were held at 10:30 a.m. on Monday, June 8, at the Harden Funeral Chapel in What Cheer. A committal service was held at the Brooklyn Memorial Cemetery at 2 p.m., Monday in Brooklyn.

Memorial contributions may be made to the building fund at First Church of the Nazarene, 1215 Third Ave. East, Oskaloosa, IA 52577.

Max Roeder was born on Aug. 9, 1926, in Des Moines, the son of Harry and Emma Story Roeder. Max grew up in Colfax and attended the Colfax High School. On Oct. 23, 1949 he was united in marriage to his first wife, Vera Bowden. After his honorable discharge from the United States Marine Corp, Max began working at both the Brummier Funeral Home and the Brummier Furniture Store in Brooklyn. In 1970, Max started his own business in Brooklyn, the Roeder Appliance Store, which he owned and operated until his retirement in 1989. On Nov. 7, 1981, at the Baptist Church in What Cheer, Max married Alice Markham, after losing his first wife due to bone cancer. Max was a former member of the American Legion and the Kiwanis; he also served as a trustee for First United Presbyterian Church in Brooklyn before moving to What Cheer. Max was most recently a member of the First Church of the Nazarene in Oskaloosa.

He enjoyed tinkering in his shop and visiting with friends and neighbors, however, Max's true pride and joy in life were his grandchildren, which he loved dearly.

He is preceded in death by his parents; his first wife, Vera; a son, Paul Markham; and a granddaughter, Rachael Markham.

Max is survived by his wife, Alice; a twin sister, Maxine Van Baale of Seattle, Wash.; three daughters, Katie (Don) Croghan of Knoxville, Sherri (Brian) Heckman of Troy, Mo., and Sheryl (David) Storm of Thornburg; three sons, Bill (Joyce) Markham of Crete, Ill., Jim Markham of East Rochester, Ohio, and David (Jodi) Markham of What Cheer. His legacy will also be cherished by fourteen grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.