

Burdette F. Abel

Burdette F. Abel, 89, of Grinnell died of congestive heart failure Thursday, Feb. 18, at St. Francis Manor.

A private graveside service was held at Hazelwood Cemetery, and a memorial service is planned for a later date.

He was born Oct. 28, 1909, in Grinnell to Burdette A. and Ella Wiler Abel. He attended school here and graduated from Grinnell High School in 1927. He attended Iowa State College and returned to Grinnell to take over the Abel Dairy following the death of his father in 1930.

He was married to Olive Graham in 1933. They farmed near Grinnell and in Madison Township. After returning to Grinnell, Mr. Abel sold agricultural supplies for Cornland Plant Foods of Grinnell. He retired as manager of the local Williams Brothers Corp. facility in 1972, then worked part time at the Grinnell Elevator and Garden Center.

He was a charter member of the Grinnell Christian Church, serving as a Sunday school teacher and treasurer for many years. He was a member of the Care Review Committee at the Mayflower, Toastmasters and Rotary.

Surviving are his wife; one daughter, Nancy Abel Wagner of University City, Mo.; four sons, Burdette Jr., Gordon and John, all of Grinnell, and David of Mankato, Minn.; one sister, Anna May Brown of Grinnell; 14 grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by four sisters, Mina Imhoff, Mary Hardin, Elizabeth Lawrence and Patty Evans.

Memorial contributions may be made to Friends of the Library, Stewart Library, Grinnell.

H-R February 25, 1999