

H-R
July 1, 1999

Willis E. Allen

Willis E. Allen, 89, of 1624 West St., Grinnell, died Wednesday, June 30, at the Iowa Veterans Home in Marshalltown.

Funeral services will be at 10:30 a.m. Saturday at the Smith Funeral Home, with burial in Hazelwood Cemetery.

Friends may call at the funeral home from noon to 9 p.m. Friday, and the family will be present from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Friday.

Willis E. Allen

Willis Earl Allen, 89, of the Iowa Veterans Home in Marshalltown died Wednesday, June 30.

Funeral services were conducted Saturday at the Smith Funeral Home, with the Rev. Dennis Smith of the Madison Church of Christ officiating. Organist was Margaret Wheeler.

Casket bearers were Buck, Jeff and Tedd Allen; Cody and Dusty Freeborn; and Eric Strunk. Honorary bearers were Casey, David, Jason, Jony and Molly Allen; Christin Allen Barnes; Jamie Freeborn; Kelly Strunk Geiger; and Kindra Strunk Rhodes.

Military rites were conducted by members of the Grinnell Veterans Ceremonial Unit, with burial in Hazelwood Cemetery.

He was the son of Thomas Jefferson and Florence Lela Hubbard Allen and was born Oct. 31, 1909, near Booneville. He was raised on the family farm and attended rural school.

From 1930 to 1935, he served with the U.S. Navy as a ship builder. During World War II, he served with the U.S. Army in the European and North African theaters.

He was married to Mary A. Siders June 9, 1945, in Des Moines. They lived in Grinnell, and he worked at Midwest Manufacturing Co. in Kellogg and as a carpenter. From 1951 to 1970, he was employed as a press operator at the Donaldson Company plant in Grinnell.

He was a member of the Grinnell Elks Lodge and the American Legion.

Surviving are his wife; his children, Thomas of Haverhill, Dennis of Anchorage, Alaska, Nancy Freeborn of Anchorage, Jon of Galena, Ill., and Sheila Strunk of Churubusco, Ind.; 15 grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; two brothers, Ralph of Winterset and Donald of Booneville; and three sisters, Beulah Paullin of West Des Moines and Dolly Anderson and Maxine Newburn, both of Des Moines.

He was preceded in death by his parents, one grandson; two brothers, Darrell and Melvin; and one sister, Opal Allen.

H-R
July 5, 1999