

# Lyle Berry, 78

Lyle D. Berry, 78, of Montezuma, died Monday, December 21, 1998 at Brookhaven Nursing home in Brooklyn. Members of Lafayette Lodge No. 52 A.F. & A.M. conducted a Masonic service Wednesday evening, Dec. 23 at 7 p.m.

Mr. Berry's funeral will be Thursday, Dec. 24 at 10:30 a.m. at Watts Funeral Home in Montezuma.

Rev. George M. Salnave officiated. Soloist was Rhonda Minner, who sang "Take My Hand, Precious Lord" and "He Grew the Tree." She was accompanied by organist Kathleen Ramsey.

Casket bearers were Tom Berry, Brad Baker, Randy Reavis, Mark VanDerVeer, Mark Baker and Jim Olson. Honorary casket bearers are Donald Griffith, Dale McWilliams, Dick Bowers, Gerald Wang, Carl Meral, Lawrence Fleming, Kenneth Schultz and Jim Wang.

Interment was at Jackson Township Cemetery in Montezuma with graveside military rites performed by Blakley-Stevens Legion Post No. 169.

Mr. Berry was born March 18, 1920 in Grinnell, the son of Joseph and Sylvia (Hink) Berry. The family moved to a farm south of Brooklyn where Mr. Berry attended school.

In 1942, he joined the U.S. Navy and served during World War II.

He married Betty Olson on Nov. 25, 1947. The couple had four children. They farmed northeast of Montezuma for several years and then moved to a farm west of Montezuma in 1958.

Mr. Betty owned and operated the Berry Blacksmith Shop in Ewart for more than 20 years.

Mr. Berry enjoyed the outdoors and was an avid hunter and fisherman. He was also a Mason, initiated as an Entered Apprentice on Nov. 17, 1961 and he passed the degree of Fellow Craft on Feb. 6, 1962. He became a Master Mason on Feb. 21, 1962.

He was a member and Past Master of Lafayette Lodge No. 52 A.F. & A.M. of Montezuma and a Master Instructor and District Lecturer of the Grand Lodge of Iowa.

Mr. Berry was also a member of York Rite, a longtime member of Blakley-Stevens American Legion Post No. 169, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 8876 and a member of the U.S. Submarine Veterans of World War II.

He belonged to the First Presbyterian Church of Montezuma.

Mr. Berry was preceded in death by his parents, a brother, Clyde Berry and two sisters, Dorothy Van Ervelde and Grace Kinnard.

Surviving are his wife Betty, two sons and a daughter-in-law, Don and his wife, Cheryl Berry and Tom Berry, all of Montezuma; two daughters and a son-in-law, Ellen and her husband, Mark VanDerVeer of Moscow, Iowa and Janet Berry of Montezuma; seven grandchildren, Shelley Berry, Brad Baker, Mark Baker, Shannon Arendt, Brian Berry, Jessica Berry and Travis Johannes; one great-granddaughter, Alicia Arendt; a brother, Joseph Berry, Jr. of Buchanan Dam, Texas; several nieces, nephews, other relatives and many friends.

Memorials may be made to the Montezuma Volunteer Fire Department Ambulance.

# Lyle D. Berry

Lyle D. Berry, 78, of Montezuma died Monday, Dec. 21, at Brookhaven Nursing Home in Brooklyn.

Funeral services were conducted Thursday at Watts Funeral Home in Montezuma, with the Rev. Dr. George M. Salnave officiating. Organist was Kathleen Ramsey, and soloist was Rhonda Minner.

Casket bearers were Tom Berry, Brad Baker, Randy Reavis, Mark VanDerVeer, Mark Baker and Jim Olson. Honorary bearers were Donald Griffith, Dale McWilliams, Dick Bowers, Gerald Wang, Carl Meral, Lawrence Fleming, Kenneth Schultz and Jim Wang.

Burial was in Jackson Township Cemetery, with military graveside rites conducted by members of Blakley-Stevens American Legion Post No. 169.

A Masonic service was conducted Wednesday by members of Lafayette Lodge No. 52, A.F. & A.M.

He was born in Grinnell March 18, 1920, to Joseph and Sylvia Hink Berry. The family moved to a farm south of Brooklyn where he attended school. He entered the U.S. Navy in 1942 and served during World War II.

On Nov. 25, 1947, he was married to Betty Olson. They farmed northeast of Montezuma for several years, then moved to a farm west of Montezuma in 1958. Mr. Berry owned and operated the Berry Blacksmith Shop in Ewart for over 20 years.

Mr. Berry was an active Mason and was a master instructor and district lecturer of the Grand Lodge of Iowa. He was also a member of the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the U.S. Submarine Veterans of World War II and the First Presbyterian Church of Montezuma.

He is survived by his wife; two sons, Don and Tom, both of Montezuma; two daughters, Ellen VanDerVeer of Moscow, Iowa, and Janet Berry of Montezuma; seven grandchildren; one great-granddaughter; and one brother, Joseph Jr. of Buchanan Dam, Texas.

He was preceded in death by his parents; one brother, Clyde; and two sisters, Dorothy Van Ervelde and Grace Kinnard.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Montezuma Volunteer Fire Department Ambulance Fund.

H-R Dec. 28 + 31, 1998