

Lai A Cheng services held

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Lai A Cheng, 67, of 1811 Reed St., Grinnell, died of a stroke Wednesday, July 29, at Marshalltown Medical Center.

Funeral services were conducted at 1 p.m. Saturday at the Smith Funeral Home, with Buddhist Monk Vanhoy of Lao Buddhist Temple of Iowa, Des Moines, officiating. Pallbearers were members of the family. Burial was in Hazelwood Cemetery.

The son of Lai Man Ky and Ho Gin Mui, he was born on Oct. 16, 1919, in Bac Can, North Vietnam. He graduated from high school there and worked as a businessman with the French government in Southeast Asia.

He was married to Fong Che Kiao in 1950 at Na Sam, North Vietnam. From 1948 to 1955 he served with the French military at different battle zones, including Dien Bien Phu. In 1955 his family moved from Haiphong, North Vietnam, to Saigon, South Vietnam.

In 1956 he moved to Seno, Laos, and operated a restaurant until 1975 when he crossed the Makong River with his family to Thailand. From there he moved to the U.S.

He and his family came to Kellogg in 1975, sponsored by Jack and Gloria Mason. The family moved to Grinnell in 1980.

Mr. Lai suffered a heart attack and stroke in December 1985 and had been a patient at Marshalltown Manor Nursing Home.

He is survived by his wife; his children, Francis and Robert Lai of Grinnell, Jessica Nguyen Cong of Newton, Eric Lai of San Francisco, Calif., Phuong Kim Lai of Toulouse, France, Long Kim Lai of Toulouse, and David and Paul Cam Lai of Grinnell; eight grandchildren; two brothers and one sister.