

Floid Hatcher services today

G. Floid Hatcher, 79, of Mesa, Ariz., died Wednesday afternoon at his home in Mesa. He had been ill with cancer for two years and was confined since January of this year.

Services will be held at 1 p.m. today at the Smith Funeral Home, with the Rev. John W. McCallum, pastor of the Grinnell United Methodist Church, officiating. Organist will be Mrs. Willard Heffner, and pallbearers will be Harry Bitcon, Billy Campbell, Leonard Chase, Ervin Claus, Albert C. Eisenman, and Charles M. Manly. Honorary pallbearers will be Carl E. Child, Fred W. Johnson, R. S. Kinsey, A. O. McDowell, Fred E. Taylor, Wayne Reams, Howard C. Tennes, and Melvin VanWechel.

Burial will be at Hazelwood Cemetery, with Roger Stewart, exalted ruler, and Harry Bitcon, chaplain, conducting the graveside rites with other members of the local Elks Lodge.

The son of Elwood and Irene Groves Hatcher, he was born near What Cheer on Sept. 12, 1896. His family later moved to a farm near New Sharon, and he received his education at rural schools near his home. He attended Penn School of Commerce at Oskaloosa, graduating in 1915.

On Jan. 17, 1917, he was married to Lucille Muckler. The couple had two children. Mr. and Mrs. Hatcher came to Grinnell in 1917, and Mr.

Hatcher was appointed dealer for the Overland Car. He also was a dealer for Hupmobile and Willys Knight. In 1924, he became a dealer for Chrysler Motors and continued with the Chrysler-Plymouth Agency until 1950. In 1942, Mr. Hatcher also became the Allis-Chalmers and Oliver Farm Machinery dealer in Grinnell, which he continued until 1961.

Mr. Hatcher, along with 13 other men, conceived the idea of building a lake in Jasper County, which eventually the state of Iowa developed into Rock Creek Lake State Park.

Mr. Hatcher had been a member of the Grinnell Rotary Club since its inception in 1938 and had maintained a perfect attendance record for over 25 years. He was a past president of the Grinnell club, a past Iowa District governor in 1949 and 1950, and attended 14 international conventions. He was also a 50-year member of the Grinnell Elks Lodge and a member of the Knights of Pythias.

In August of 1935, he was preceded in death by his wife, Lucille. On Oct. 25, 1938, he was married to Esther Phipps. They moved to Mesa in 1965 to make their home.

He is survived by his wife, Esther; his two children, Mrs. Betty Jean Macht of Des Moines and Roy Hatcher of Marshalltown; six grandchildren; and a sister, Mrs. Fern Phillips of Oskaloosa.

H-R May 3, 1976