

John Kleinschmidt

John Rochester Kleinschmidt, 84, of 1206 Broad St., Grinnell, died of congestive heart failure Wednesday, June 21, at St. Francis Manor.

A memorial service will be held at 4:30 p.m. Thursday, June 29, in Herrick Chapel on the Grinnell College campus. The Rev. Daniel I. Ogata will officiate, and John Jensen, pianist, will perform musical selections.

Mr. Kleinschmidt was born July 21, 1915, in Logan, Ohio, to Walter and Harriet Rochester Kleinschmidt. He was a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Oberlin College in 1937 and received his M.A. degree from Brown University.

During World War II, he was awarded a Bronze Star and served with the U.S. Army in the European Theater as an operations officer in a field artillery battalion.

He was married to Barbara Howard May 30, 1942. They lived and traveled throughout Europe. He received a Docteur es Lettres degree from the University of Geneva in Switzerland.

In 1948, he became an assistant professor of French at Grinnell College, and in 1960 he was named professor of French. Mr. Kleinschmidt was awarded several academic prizes and fellowships, and he published a book, "Les Imprimeurs et Libraires de la Republique de Geneve, 1700-1798."

He spent summer months near Parry Sound, Ontario, Canada. His avocation was the history of Grinnell, and he was knowledgeable about its early citizens and buildings. He was a member of the Des Moines Club, Phi Beta Kappa and the Fortnightly Club of Grinnell.

He is survived by his wife. His parents preceded him in death.