

David C. Mertens

David C. Mertens, 64, died Tuesday, Sept. 30, in Coldwater, Ohio, while playing a game of tennis.

The Mass of the Resurrection was held for David Mertens at 10:30 a.m. Monday, Oct. 6, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Grinnell, with the Rev. William Reynolds of St. Mary's and the Rev. William Beckfeld, deacon of St. Bartholomew's Catholic Church in Wayzata, Minn., and a friend of the family, officiating.

Music was provided by Kyle Szary, organist, and the St. Mary's Choir, under the direction of Karen Town.

Pallbearers were Bob Mertens, Wayne Mertens, Troy Mertens, John Dorsett, Dr. Joe Pekarna, Dr. Henry Menke, Harold Hanson and Clem Bodensteiner. Interment was in Hazelwood Cemetery.

The son of Cecil J. and Vera Colling Mertens, David Mertens was born on June 18, 1933, in Jordan, Minn., where he was raised and educated. He was a 1951 graduate of Jordan High School and served in the U.S. Navy following his graduation.

On Sept. 24, 1960, he married Elizabeth Ann "Betty" Clemens in Minneapolis. The couple made their home in Prior Lake, Minn., before moving to

Grinnell in 1973.

Mertens was affiliated with Farmhand and its acquirer, AGCO, for 35 years. In 1995, he moved with the company to Coldwater, Ohio, as a purchasing agent.

He was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church and the Parish Foundation. While in Coldwater, he was a member of the Holy Trinity Catholic Church and the Knights of Columbus.

He was active in golf, tennis and bowling leagues, and was an outdoorsman who enjoyed hunting and fishing with his grandchildren, as well as going for walks and bike rides. He was also an avid carpenter, and looked forward to family gatherings and helping his children with home projects.

He is survived by his three children and their spouses, Shelly and Carter Stevens of Denver, Iowa; Mike and Shari Mertens of Grinnell; and Tom and Paula Mertens of Brooklyn Park, Minn.; eight grandchildren, Kirsten, Haley, and Sommer Stevens and Ryan, Micaela, Christian, Victoria and Matthew Mertens; and two brothers, Bob Mertens of Prior Lake and Wayne Mertens of Shakopee, Minn.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his wife, Betty, in 1995.

M-R October 6, 1997