

## Leon Mahlstedt

Leon "Swede" Mahlstedt, 81, of Grinnell died Saturday, Sept. 26, at Iowa Methodist Medical Center in Des Moines.

Funeral services were conducted Thursday at St. John's Lutheran Church, with the Rev. Stephen Jasch officiating. Organist was Margaret Amo.

Pallbearers were Brian McDonough, Terry McDaniel, Scott McDonough, David McDaniel, Kyle McDonough, Jeff McDaniel and Brad McDonough. Honorary bearers were Delmar Adkins, Bob Herzberg, Duke McCurry, Earl Rohrssen, Jim Tedford, Ken Weiting and Bud Worth.

Burial was in Hazelwood Cemetery, with the Smith Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

The son of William Daniel and Nora Kleiss Mahlstedt, he was born July 22, 1917, in Bremer County. He was raised in Tripoli. After the death of his mother in 1925, he moved to an orphanage in Hoyleton, Ill. He returned to Tripoli in 1934 to finish his education, graduating from Tripoli High School in 1936.

He was married to Isabella L. Rohrssen June 14, 1941, in Chippewa Falls, Wis. They lived in Albertville, Wis., where he worked at a creamery. They later moved to a farm near Sumner before moving to Grinnell in 1949.

Mr. Mahlstedt operated a creamery here, and in 1958 he opened Swede's Laundry. He retired in 1980. He had lived at Seeland Park since the fall of 1990.

Mr. Mahlstedt was a member of St. John's Lutheran Church and was a past president and secretary-treasurer of the church council. He also served as a Sunday school teacher.

He had played semi-professional baseball in Florida and was one of the founders of the Grinnell Little League program. He also umpired for several years and was elected to the Grinnell Softball Hall of Fame.

Surviving are his wife; three daughters, Susan McDonough of Grinnell, Sara Burk of Brooklyn and Charlotte Seegers of Stone City; seven grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; and one sister, Lera Ringhover of Porterville, Calif.

He was preceded in death by his parents and one sister, Irene Pritchard.

Memorial contributions may be made to the St. John's Lutheran Church Elevator Fund.

H-R  
October 1, 1998

## Leon "Swede" Mahlstedt

Funeral services were held Thursday morning, Oct. 1 at St. John's Lutheran Church, Grinnell, for Leon "Swede" Mahlstedt, 81, who died September 26, 1998, at Iowa Methodist Medical Center, Des Moines. The Rev. Stephen Jasch officiated. The organist was Margaret Amo, who played "In The Garden", "Beneath The Cross of Jesus", and "On Eagles Wings". Pallbearers were Brian McDonough, Terry McDaniel, Scott McDonough, David McDaniel, Kyle McDonough, Jeff McDaniel, and Brad McDonough. Honorary bearers were Delmar Adkins, Bob Herzberg, Duke McCurry, Earl Rohrssen, Jim Tedford, Ken Weiting, and Bud Worth. Burial was in the Hazelwood Cemetery, Grinnell.

Leon was born July 22, 1917, in Bremer County, the son of William Daniel and Nora Kleiss Mahlstedt. He was raised in Tripoli and after the death of his mother in 1925, he moved to an orphanage in Hoyleton, Ill. Swede returned to Tripoli in 1934 to finish his education and graduated from there in 1936. Following his education, he made his home in Waterloo.

He was married to Isabella L. Rohrssen June 14, 1941, in Chippewa Falls, Wis. The couple lived in Albertville, where he worked at a creamery and later moved to a farm near Sumner, prior to moving to Grinnell in 1949. He operated a creamery and in 1958 he began operating Swede's Grinnell Laundry until his retirement in 1980. He made his home at Secland Park in Grinnell since the fall of 1990 and since 1980, his winters were spent either in Florida or Arizona.

Swede was a member of St. John's Lutheran Church in Grinnell, where he was a past president and secretary/treasurer of the church council, and former Sunday school teacher. His life was centered around his family. Swede's two passions in life were baseball and traveling. He played semi-pro baseball in Florida, was one of the founding fathers of the Grinnell Little League program, where he also umpired for many years. He was elected to the Grinnell Softball Hall of Fame. He was an avid fan of the St. Louis Cardinals and University of Iowa Hawkeyes.

Preceding him in death were his parents and one sister, Irene Pritchard.

Survivors include his wife, Isabella of Grinnell; three daughters and sons-in-law, Susan and Howard McDonough of Grinnell, Sarah and Larry Burk of Brooklyn, and Charlotte and Joel Seegers of Stone City; seven grandchildren, Brian, Scott, Kyle, and Brad McDonough, and Terry, David, and Jeff McDaniel; eight great-grandchildren, Rachel Lint, Adam, T.J., Taylor, Samantha, and Haley McDaniel, and Jacob and Conor McDonough; and one sister, Lera Ringhofer of Porterville, Calif.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. John's Lutheran Church Elevator Fund. Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell was in charge of arrangements.

BC October 7, 1998