

## Rites Held for Mr. Murphy <sup>4/30/12</sup>



Lawrence E. Murphy

The Rev. Lawrence E. Murphy died at Grinnell General Hospital Sunday afternoon (April 30) following a brief illness.

He was born Dec. 4, 1890 in Ashland, Mo., to William R. and Monnie Murphy, and grew up and secured his elementary and secondary education in that community. He received his B.A. degree from Missouri Central College and his B.D. degree from Garratt Seminary, Chicago, Ill. after having attended Yale Divinity School for one year. He worked on an advanced degree at Chicago Theological Seminary before returning to Columbia, Mo. where he served as assistant pastor at the First Methodist Church while doing work on his doctorate at the University of Missouri. He then taught ancient history and Latin at the University of Wisconsin.

The Rev. Mr. Murphy and Ariel Parke were married Aug. 25, 1922, and together they served parishes at Spring Green, Lake Mills and Durand, Wis., coming to Dubuque, Iowa, in 1931. They also served churches at Onawa, Corning and Glenwood, Iowa. The Murphys retired in 1957 and moved to Sioux City to make their home with their son Don.

The Rev. Mr. Murphy continued to serve churches on a part-time basis in Iowa and Nebraska until 1963. He served

as a member of the Iowa Conference Board of Directors while at Onawa. He served as an interim pastor at the Newburg United Church of Christ after coming to Grinnell.

On Aug. 31, 1963, the Murphys moved to Buckley Hall, Mayflower Home.

The Rev. Mr. Murphy was very active in the local Rotary Club, serving as its bulletin editor for a number of years; was chaplain at the Mayflower Home for several years; was president of the Couples Club; and worked in his assigned shop area carving alabaster. Several pieces of his work are on display at the home.

Services for the Rev. Mr. Murphy were held Wednesday, May 3, with the Rev. Newell Davis officiating. Mr. Murphy was a member of the Masonic Order and Masonic services were conducted by the members of Hermon Lodge No. 273, A. F. & A. M., of Grinnell.

F. W. Tomasek serving as master of the lodge. Pianist was Ruth Campbell and burial was in Chester cemetery. A memorial service was held in the chapel at the Mayflower Home at 2:30 Wednesday.

The Rev. Murphy is survived by his wife, Ariel, Mayflower Home; two sons, Lawrence, librarian for the New York City Public Library, and Don, an artist of Fairbanks, Alaska; and a brother, Marvin (Jack) Murphy of Columbia, Mo.