

One hundred eleventh year *Herold*

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Cigarette blamed for fire fatal to Larry E. Paul, 19



Larry Paul

A lighted cigarette in a couch was blamed for a fire which took the life of a 19-year-old Grinnell man early Monday morning.

Authorities said Larry Eugene Paul of 927 Center St. died of smoke inhalation when fire broke out in a house located on the northwest corner of Fourth Ave. and Summer St. shortly after 2 a.m. *April 9*

Four other occupants of the house escaped injury.

Firemen found the victim's body on the floor of the kitchen. The house sustained considerable smoke and heat damage.

The alarm was turned in by Robert Bergan of 1620 Third Ave. Bergan, a baker at the Hy-Vee store, was on his way to work when he noticed flames inside the frame structure. He

alerted the occupants of the house, then rushed to his own home at 1620 Third Ave. to call the fire department.

Investigators from the state fire marshal's office arrived in Grinnell Monday morning to examine the charred structure. They determined that the fire began in a couch.

Other occupants of the house included Bob Hunter, Pat Cisson, Nancy Gauss and Dave Eilert, Grinnell police said.

Funeral services for Larry Paul were held at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday at the Smith Funeral Home, with the Rev. John Epperson, pastor of the Grinnell Christian Church, officiating. Organist was Kathleen Heffner. Pallbearers were Jim Brown, Dave Eilert, Craig Gilkey, Rick Green, Kelly Miller and Bill Molison. Honorary bearers were Rick Butler, Brian Claney, Kirby Criswell, Mark Dayton, Bob Hunter, Dave Pierce and Marvin Pierce. Burial was at the Lakeview section of Hazelwood Cemetery.

Should friends desire, memorials may be made to the Grinnell High School athletic department and may be left at the Smith Funeral Home.

Obituary

The son of Kenneth and Betty Pierce Paul, he was born April 23, 1959, in Grinnell. He attended school here, graduating from Grinnell High School in 1977. He lettered for three years on the high school football team and was all-conference honorable mention as an offensive guard during his junior year. As a senior, he was second team all-conference as a defensive line-baker. He was also active as a member of the Key Club and the Honor-G Club.

Following his graduation from high school, he was employed at Miracle Recreation Equipment Co. and recently had been attending the United Electronics Institute in Des Moines.

Survivors include his parents; a brother, Kevin Paul of Cerritos, Calif.; a sister, Mrs. Dennis (Carolyn) Giancola of Des Moines; his paternal grandmother, Mrs. Esther Paul of Colorado Springs, Colo.; and his maternal grandmother, Mrs. Clarice Rivers of Grinnell. He was preceded in death by both his grandfathers, William Paul and Marshall Pierce.