

Neil F. Smith ^{10/12/72} Rites Saturday ^{7/2}

Neil F. Smith, 50, of Minneapolis, Minn., died early Thursday morning at Veterans Hospital facility in Minneapolis. He had been ill with cancer since August and had been hospitalized most of this fall.

The son of Georgs and Mary Cecile Farmer Smith, he was born June 24, 1922, near Searsboro. He attended rural schools near Blue Point and Grant Township and later was graduated from Grinnell High School.

In 1942 he enlisted in the U.S. Navy and served in the Navy for 22 years. While in the service he was a jet airplane mechanic. On May 9, 1970, he was married to Esther Michel in Minneapolis, and the couple had continued to make their home in that city. For the last few years he worked as a machinist. He was a member of the Grinnell American Legion and the Grinnell Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Mr. Smith is survived by his wife Esther; his two step-sons, Darryl and Dennis Michel, both of Minneapolis; two step-grandchildren, Tim and Nanette Michel; his mother, Mrs. Cecile Smith of Grinnell; five brothers and three sisters, Mrs. Clifford (Zelphia) Crews of Lynnville, Mrs. John J. (Peggy) Harter and Mrs. Doyle (Norma) Burkett, both of Grinnell, Kenneth Smith of Searsboro, Max Smith and George Smith Jr., both of Grinnell, Lyle Smith of Bellflower Calif., and Gene Smith of Grinnell; and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his father in 1966 and his brother Dale "Jack" Smith in 1956.

Funeral services for Mr. Smith were held at 2:30 p.m. Saturday at the Smith Funeral Home, with the Rev. J. Eugene Young, minister of the Grinnell United Methodist Church, officiating. Organist was Mrs. Willard Heffner. Pallbearers included Dean Clark, Hollis Elliott, Gene Hunter, E.E. Kirby, W.M. "Bud" Oltrogge, and Ben Ruggles.

Graveside rites were conducted by the Grinnell Veterans Ceremonial Unit with Donald Baker, commander, and W.K. Richardson, chaplain, officiating. Burial was in Hazelwood Cemetery.