Clair Bahrenfus

Clair (Barney) Bahrenfuse, 83, of rural Kellogg died Wednesday, Sept. 8, 2004, at Grinnell Regional Medical Center.

A funeral service was held Saturday, Sept. 11, at Smith Funeral Home with the Rev. Bob Molsberry, pastor of the United Church of Christ-Congregational, officiating. Pallbearers were Seth and Eli Bahrenfuse, Rick Hammond, Mike Lau, Dan McDowell, John Ohm and Walt Richardson. Honorary bearers were Floyd Hunter, Christine Lau, Jack Paxton, George Thompson and Carl Vinall. Burial was in Westfield Cemetery south of Grinnell. Memorial contributions may be made to the Kellogg Historical Museum, Pleasant View Church or Westfield Cemetery Association.

The son of Frank and Anna Prosser Bahrenfuse, he was born June 8, 1921, in Poweshiek County. He was raised in Poweshiek and Jasper Counties, attending rural schools near his home. He was employed as a farm hand and also delivered groceries to people’s homes by motorcycle with sidecar. He was a veteran of the United States Army during World War II, serving with the 81st Wildcat division as a mechanic in the South Pacific. Upon discharge, he attended Cal-Aero Technical School in California where he studied radial-engine mechanics. Returning to Iowa, he was married to Doris Tough on Nov. 9, 1946, at Pleasant View Church in rural Jasper County. They farmed in Jasper County and for a short time he was employed by Maytag. They moved to their current farm near Kellogg in the mid-1950s. He was a member of Pleasant View Church.

He is survived by his wife Doris, one daughter Carol Ohm of Alden, Minn., and one son, Robert (Barney) Bahrenfuse of Grinnell; four grandchildren; three great-grandchildren and one sister Edith Lee of Riverton, Wyo. He was preceded in death by his parents and three brothers, Raymond, Ralph and Harold.