Leonard Lemke

Leonard Lemke, 80, of Grinnell died Tuesday, Aug. 17, 2004, at his home. A funeral service was held Saturday, Aug. 21, at Smith Funeral Home with John Epperson, pastor of Grinnell Christian Church, officiating. Burial was in Pleasant Township cemetery in Ewart. Memorial contributions may be made to Grinnell Regional Hospice.

He was born Feb. 8, 1924, in Kellogg, the son of Herman and Edith McMeekin Lemke. He was raised in the Kellogg, Searsboro, Montezuma and Grinnell areas, receiving his education in rural schools near his home. He was married to Nancy E. Belcher on Dec. 31, 1943, in Montezuma and the couple made their home in Grinnell. He was a veteran of the United States Army, serving in France and Germany. Upon his discharge, he returned to Grinnell where became a business owner-operator which included the Monroe Hotel, City Cab and Greyhound Bus Line Station. He later became a truck driver, retiring in 1981. He was a former Scoutmaster of Troop No. 313.

He is survived by four children, Leonard (Sonny) Lemke Jr., Larry Lemke, Lynn Phanhamath and Laraine Lemke, all of Grinnell; nine grandchildren; 11 great grandchildren; five brothers, Donald, Walter and Ralph Lemke, all of Grinnell, Calvin Lemke of Winchester, Va., and Marvin Lemke of Rolla, Mo., and two sisters, Dorothy Haines and Hazel Darnell, both of Grinnell. He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife, two brothers and one great granddaughter.