Elbert Morton, 84

Elbert Morton, 84, of Grinnell and formerly of Guernsey, died Thursday, November 11, 2004, at the Mayflower Health Care Center in Grinnell.

A graveside service and burial for Mr. Morton was held November 15, at the Guernsey Cemetery, with the Rev. Reva Rimmer, pastor of the New Covenant Parish, Guernsey Methodist Church, officiating.

Memorial contributions may be directed to the Elbert Morton Memorial Fund.

Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell handled the arrangements.

The son of John Wherry and Nelle Louise Atherton Morton, he was born June 25, 1920, in Guernsey. He was raised in Guernsey, and he was a 1939 graduate of Guernsey High School. He was a veteran of the United States Army, serving with the 32nd Red Arrow Division in Australia and New Guinea during World War II as a squad and assistant platoon sergeant in combat. He returned to Guernsey after his discharge in 1945.

He married Alice Laurine Heller on August 25, 1941, in Unionville, Missouri. He was employed at the Guernsey Elevator for 19 years, and he later worked for the Iowa Department of Agriculture as a meat inspector for Jasper, Marshall, Poweshiek and Iowa counties. He retired in 1982. He was an active member of the Guernsey Methodist Church.

Survivors include seven children, Larry Morton of Grinnell, Paul Morton of Cedar Rapids, John and Tom Morton, both of Guernsey, Joy Douglas of Brooklyn, James Morton of Victor, and Mary Steele of Grinnell; 19 grandchildren; and 23 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife in 2000; two brothers, Lauren and Dale Morton; one sister, Faun Norden; and one great-great-grandchild.

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He is survived by seven children, Larry Morton of Grinnell, Paul Morton of Cedar Rapids, John Morton and Tom Morton, both of Guernsey, Joy Douglas of Brooklyn, James Morton of Victor, and Mary Steele of Grinnell; 19 grandchildren and 23 great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife, two brothers, Lauren and Dale Morton; one sister Faun Norden and one great-great-grandchild.