

Wayne L. Gropper

Wayne L. Gropper, 83, of Grinnell died Monday, Sept. 1, at Grinnell Regional Medical Center. A funeral service was held Thursday, Sept. 4, at Grinnell Christian Church with John Epperson, pastor of the church, and John Rens, pastor of Malcom Presbyterian Church, officiating. Organist was Jolene Jones. Pallbearers were Cory and Scott Cope, Greg, Jeff, Jeremy, Joshua and Tim Criswell and Dean Johnson. Honorary pallbearers were Gordon Dicke, Maynard Durr, Jeff Gropper, Tom Harris, Gene Kerbel, Mike Kriegel, Wes Meyer, Kenneth (Cutter) Paul, Dan Slagle and Ted Urfer. Burial was in Ivy Hill Cemetery in Malcom. Memorial contributions may be made to the Wayne L. Gropper Memorial fund.

The son of Rubin William and Ella Tiederman Gropper, he was born Feb. 19, 1920, in Malcom Township, Poweshiek County, Iowa. He was a 1937 graduate of Grinnell High School and a veteran of the United States Army Air Corps during World War II. He was married to Naomi Meyer in 1946 and later was married to Leone Dohrman May 8, 1968, in Moline, Ill. He farmed for many years in Poweshiek County and owned and operated Grinnell Transport for several years. He later was employed at Grinnell Implement and most recently for Sully Coop. He had made his home in Oakland Acres since 1977. He was a member of Malcom Presbyterian Church, Grinnell American Legion, Kaaba Shrine, Eastern Star and the Eagles, Elks and Masonic Lodges. He was a past exalted ruler of the Grinnell Elks Lodge.

He is survived by his wife Leone of Grinnell; two daughters, Mary Johnson of Harlan and Marilyn Gropper of St. Paul, Minn.; three stepchildren, Kennetha Criswell of Searsboro, Karen Cope of Newton and Fred Criswell of Lynnvile; one granddaughter, nine step grandchildren; six step great grandchildren and one brother Earl Gropper of Grinnell. He was preceded in death by his parents.

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Services were held Thursday at the Grinnell Christian Church with the Rev. John Epperson, pastor of the church, and the Rev. John Rens, pastor of the Malcom Presbyterian Church, officiating. Interment was in the Ivy Hill Cemetery in Malcom.

The honorary casket bearers were Gordon Dicke, Maynard Durr, Jeff Gropper, Tom Harris, Gene Kerbel, Mike Kriegel, Wes Meyer, Kenneth Cutter Paul, Dan Slagle and Ted Urfer.

Casket bearers were Cory Cope, Scott Cope, Dean Johnson, and Greg, Jeff, Jeremy, Joshua and Tim Criswell.

Memorial contributions may be directed to the Wayne L. Gropper Memorial Fund.

Smith Funeral Home of Grinnell handled the funeral arrangements.

Wayne, the son of Ruben William and Ella (Tiederman) Gropper, was born Feb. 19, 1920, in Malcom Township in Poweshiek County. He was a 1937 graduate of Grinnell High School. He served in the Army Air Corps during World II.

Wayne married Naomi Meyer in 1946 in Grinnell. He later married Leone Dohrn Criswell on May 4, 1968, in Moline, Ill. He farmed for many years in Poweshiek County. He also owned and operated Grinnell Transport for several years. He was later employed by Grinnell Implement. Most recently, he worked for Sully Co-op.

A resident of Oakland Acres since 1977, Wayne was a member of the Malcom Presbyterian Church, the Grinnell American Legion, the Kaaba Shriners, the Eastern Star, and the Eagles, Elks and Masonic lodges. He was a past Exalted Ruler of the Elks Lodge.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Wayne is survived by his wife, Leone, of Grinnell; his two daughters, Mary Johnson of Harlan and Marilyn Gropper of St. Paul, Minn.; two stepchildren, Karen Schermerhorn of Newton and Fred Criswell of Lynnvile; one stepdaughter-in-law, Kennetha Criswell of Searsboro; one granddaughter; nine step-grandchildren; six step-great-grandchildren; and one brother, Earl Gropper of Grinnell.

H-R SEPTEMBER 4, 2003

BC SEPT. 10, 2003

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Pallbearers were Cory and Scott Cope, Greg, Jeff, Jeremy, Joshua and Tim Criswell, and Dean Johnson.

Honorary bearers were Gordon Dicke, Maynard Durr, Jeff Gropper, Tom Harris, Gene Kerbel, Mike Kriegel, Wes Meyer, Kenneth "Cutter" Paul, Dan Slagle and Ted Urfer.

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Meyer in 1946 at Grinnell, and was later married to Leone Dohrn Criswell on May 4, 1968 at Moline, Ill. He farmed for many years in Poweshiek County and owned and operated Grinnell Transport for several years. He was later employed at Grinnell Implement and most recently at Sully Co-op. He had made his home at Oakland Acres since 1977. He was a member of the Malcom Presbyterian Church, Grinnell American Legion, Kaaba Shriners, Eastern Star, and the Eagles, Elks, and Masonic Lodges. He was a past Exalted Ruler of the Elks Lodge.

Survivors include his wife, Leone, of Grinnell; two daughters, Mary Johnson of Harlan, and Marilyn Gropper of St. Paul, Minn.; two step-children, Karen Schermerhorn of Newton and Fred Criswell of Lynnvile; one step-daughter-in-law, Kennetha Criswell of Searsboro; one granddaughter, nine step-grandchildren; six step-great grandchildren; and one brother, Earl Gropper, of Grinnell.

Memorial contributions may be directed to the Wayne L. Gropper Memorial Fund.

MR SEPT. 10, 2003