

H-R JULY 24, 2003

Eldon Oltrogge



Eldon Oltrogge, 83, of Grinnell died on Tuesday, July 22, at St. Francis Manor in Grinnell.

Funeral services for Eldon Oltrogge will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Friday, July 25, at St. John's Lutheran Church in Grinnell with the Rev. Herb Knudten, pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church, officiating. Music will be provided by Margaret Amo, organist, and Marty Duffus, vocalist. Casket bearers will include Ron Adams, Randy Courter, Bob Fuerst, Marty Jordan and Bob Kriegel; honorary bearers will include Virgil Adams, Ron Brown, Harry Duffus, Jim Graham, Ken Graham, Keith Gregory, Earl Heishman, John Peak and Floyd Richman.

The Grinnell Veterans Ceremonial Unit will conduct graveside rites. Interment will be at Hazelwood Cemetery in Grinnell.

Friends may call at Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell from noon to 8 p.m. on Thursday. The family will gather at the funeral home from 6:30 to 8 p.m. that day.

He was born on Feb. 5, 1920, in Grinnell to Henry and Marie Pickhardt Oltrogge. He was confirmed in the Lutheran faith in 1935 at the Trinity Lutheran Church. He attended Grinnell schools and graduated from Grinnell High School with the class of 1939.

During World War II, he served with the U.S. Army Air Corp. Following the war, he returned to the Grinnell area and assisted Reynolds Plum with his farm operation. In 1961, he purchased his own farm in Sheridan Township.

On Feb. 6, 1969, he married Hazel Birkenholtz Boliver in Troutman, N.C. The couple lived in Sheridan Township, where they operated a grain and livestock farm until they retired in 1983. They moved to Grinnell in 1987, and he had resided at Seeland Park since November of 2001.

There are no immediate survivors. He was preceded in death by his wife, his parents and several brothers and sisters.

Memorials may be directed to Grinnell Regional Hospice or to St. John's Lutheran Church in Grinnell.