

John W. 'Jack' Penne

Bob Penne, of Grinnell. He was preceded in death by his parents.



6 HR 12-2-10

John W. "Jack" Penne, 86, of Grinnell died Sunday, Nov. 28, 2010, at St. Francis Manor in Grinnell.

A Mass of the Resurrection will be held Friday, Dec. 3, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Grinnell with the Rev. Nick Adam, pastor of the church, officiating. Music will be provided by Marilyn Kriegel, organist, and the St. Mary's Choir. Casket bearers will be Kirby Criswell, Jack Marcum, Tim Moothart, Bill Smith, Gordon Sumner and Joe Sumner. Interment will be in Mount Olivet Cemetery in Waterloo.

Friends may call at Smith Funeral Home Thursday, Dec. 2, beginning at 12 noon with family members present from 2 to 4 p.m.

Memorials may be directed to St. Mary's Catholic Church or to Grinnell High School's Dollars for Scholars.

He was born June 21, 1924, in Waterloo, the son of John and Louise Gindt Penne. He was raised in Waterloo where he attended school, then receiving the Bachelor of Arts degree in Education from Loras College in Dubuque and later the Master of Arts degree from the University of Northern Iowa in Cedar Falls.

In 1947, he was united in marriage with Rita Catherine Meisch in Waterloo. They resided in Toledo prior to moving to Grinnell where he taught social studies and ancient history at Grinnell High School, as well as serving as vice principal at the high school prior to his retirement.

He enjoyed boating on the Mississippi River and traveling throughout the United States, Europe and the Middle East. He was a member of the Iowa State Education Association, the National Education Association and the Grinnell Elks Lodge. He also was a long-time member of St. Mary's Catholic Church where he was the church organist for over 30 years.

He is survived by his wife Rita C. Penne of Grinnell; one daughter, Mary Beth Penne, of Ottumwa; and one son,