

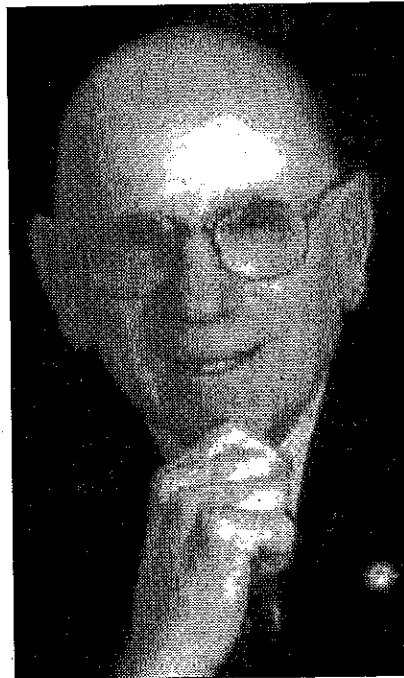
Cliff Thompson

Cliff Thompson, 91, of Grinnell died Friday, Feb. 25, 2011, at St. Francis Manor.

A memorial service will be held Tuesday, March 8, at 11 a.m. at Grinnell Christian Church. Interment will be at a later date.

Memorials may be made to the Cliff Thompson Memorial Fund in care of Smith Funeral Home.

Clifford A. Thompson



Clifford A. Thompson, 91, of Grinnell died Friday, Feb. 25, 2011, at St. Francis Manor.

A memorial service will be held Tuesday, March 8, at 11 a.m. at Grinnell Christian Church with John Epperson, pastor emeritus, officiating. A flag presentation will be conducted by the Grinnell Veterans Ceremonial Unit.

Memorials may be made to the Clifford Thompson Memorial Fund in care of Smith Funeral Home, PO Box 368, Grinnell IA 50112.

He was born May 12, 1919, on his family's farm near Lynnvile, the son of Louis and Florence Amy Burnham Thompson. Raised on the family farm, he attended rural school, graduating later from Grinnell High School with the Class of 1937 after his family moved to Grinnell. He then began employment with Morrison-Shults Jacket Company, moving up the ranks to a management position.

During World War II he served with the United States Navy in New Zealand and Australia.

He was united in marriage with Betty Jean Arbs on Aug. 18, 1940, at her parents' home in Newton. Following his military service they moved to Grinnell where he and his brother Cloyd Thompson founded and developed Oakland Acres Golf Course.

From 1968 to 1977, the couple resided in Taiwan where he served as executive vice president of DeLong's Sportswear Company. Following his retirement, he and his wife resided in Florida, then in Gilman, moving in 2004 to Seeland Park in Grinnell.

He was a member and past ruler of the Grinnell Elks Lodge, a member of the American Legion and the Iowa Senior Golf Association.

He is survived by his daughter Kathi Sawyer of Ankeny; three grandchildren; eight great grandchildren; four great great grandchildren; and two brothers, Cloyd Thompson of Grinnell and Elmer Thompson of Ottumwa. He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife; one daughter, Diana Pagel; and one sister, Myrtle Hart.

CHR 3-3-11

Wednesday, March 9, 2011

PCCR

Clifford A. Thompson, 91

Clifford A. Thompson, 91, of Grinnell, died on Friday, Feb. 25, 2011, at St. Francis Manor in Grinnell.

A memorial service was held at 11 a.m., Tuesday, March 8, 2011, at the Grinnell Christian Church with the Rev. John Epperson officiating. A flag presentation was conducted by the Grinnell Veterans Ceremonial Unit.

Memorials may be directed to the Clifford Thompson memorial fund and sent in care of the Smith Funeral Home, P.O. Box 368, Grinnell, Iowa 50112.



Clifford was born on May 12, 1919, on the family farm near Lynnville, to Louis and Florence Amy Burnham Thompson. He was raised on the family farm and attended country school. As a young man, he moved to Grinnell and graduated with the Class of 1937 from Grinnell High School. After his education, he began work with the Morrison-Shults Jacket Company and moved up the ranks to a management position. He served with the United States Navy during World War II and was stationed in New Zealand and Australia.

On Aug. 18, 1940, he was married to Betty Jean Arbs at her parent's home in Newton. The couple moved to Grinnell following Clifford's military service. He and his brother, Cloyd Thompson, founded and constructed the Oakland Acres Golf Course near Grinnell. From 1968 to 1977, the couple lived in Taiwan and he served as an Executive Vice President for the DeLong's Sportswear Company. After his retirement, the couple resided in Florida and Gilman. In 2004, the couple moved to Seeland Park in Grinnell.

Clifford was a member and Past Exalted Ruler of the Grinnell Elks Lodge and he was also a member of the American Legion and the Iowa Senior Golf Association. He was an avid golfer and he enjoyed woodworking, playing bridge and socializing with family and friends.

Survivors include his daughter, Kathi (Mike) Sawyer of Ankeny; three grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; four great-great-grandchildren; and two brothers, Cloyd Thompson of Grinnell and Elmer Thompson of Ottumwa.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife; one daughter, Diana Pagel; and one sister, Myrtle Hart.