

PCCR

Marvin E. Keller, 88

Marvin E. Keller, 88, of Grinnell, died on Saturday, Dec. 10, 2011, at the Grinnell Care Center.

A funeral service was held at 10:30 a.m., Wednesday, Dec. 14, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Grinnell with Deacon Joe Behounek officiating. Music was provided by Marilyn Kriegel, organist, and Anna Upah, vocalist. Military honors were conducted by the Grinnell Veterans Ceremonial Unit. Interment was at the Victor Memorial Cemetery with the Smith Funeral Home of Grinnell in charge of arrangements.

Memorials may be directed to the Marvin Keller Memorial Fund.

Marvin was born on Thursday, March 29, 1923, near Deep River, to Alex and Rosa Ranfeld Keller. He attended a rural school near the family farm and assisted his family with family during the Great Depression. He also mastered the Hawaiian guitar and gave lessons to young people in the area.

On May 16, 1945, he enlisted into the United States Army and served as a postal clerk in Germany following the war. He was awarded the Army of Occupation Medal, the European-African-Middle Eastern Theater Medal, the Victory Medal, the Good Conduct Medal and he was honorably discharged on Nov. 6, 1946.

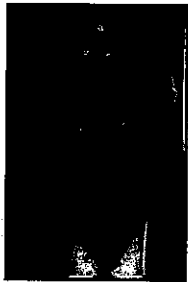
On June 28, 1948, he was married to Mary Ann Sevcik near Clutier. The couple farmed near Victor and later moved to a farm near Ladora. He farmed part-time over the next 40 years and attended the Universal Trade School in Omaha. Following his education, he was an automobile mechanic and worked for the Leo Kelly Company in Marengo. He also completed a degree in bookkeeping at the Hamilton Business College in Cedar Rapids and worked in the bookkeeping department at Sindt Implement Company in Keystone. Prior to his retirement, he was a salesman for Mike Horak Chevrolet in Toledo and worked at F.D. Potts in Marengo. The couple moved to Grinnell in 2000.

He was an honorary member of the Knights of Columbus in Grinnell and Marengo. While living in Ladora, he was a member of St. Patrick's Catholic Church and the Kiwanis Club. He was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Grinnell and was a 56-year member of the American Legion. Following his retirement, he enjoyed entertaining residents of nursing homes with his Hawaiian guitar.

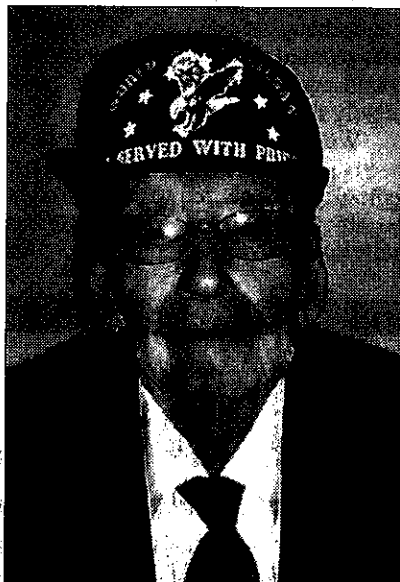
He enjoyed traveling and visiting relatives in Germany and the Czech Republic. He was interested in family genealogy and compiled history for the Ranfeld and Keller families. He also enjoyed sharing photos from his travels at family reunions.

Survivors include his wife, Mary Ann Keller, of Grinnell; his children, Dwight (Kathy) Keller of Leawood, Kan., Terrie (Wayne) Schafbuch of Victor, Betty (Bernie) Waterbeck of Garwin, Dean Keller of Grinnell, Norman (Renee) Keller of Cedar Rapids, and Janice (Jim) Burnham of Williamsburg; nine grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his son, Keith Keller; and one sister, LaVaun Edwards.



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Friends may call at Smith Funeral Home at 12 noon to 8 p.m. on Tuesday, and the family will be present from 4 to 8 p.m. Tuesday evening. A rosary service will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday evening.

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