

Archie Earle Ryan



Archie Earle Ryan, 81, of Grundy Center and formerly of Poweshiek County, died at a family home in Phoenix, Ariz., July 29, 2012.

A celebration of life memorial will be held at the American Lutheran Church in Grundy Center at 10:30 Saturday, Aug. 25, with visitation one hour prior. The church is located at 1103 F. Ave., and lunch will follow the service. A memorial service for family and friends was held at the Light and Life Free Methodist Church in Phoenix on Aug. 4. At his stated request, his body was cremated and the cremains

will be buried in a private service at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, it is suggested that contributions be made in his memory to the Grundy Center Community School District Foundation, 1301 12th St., Grundy Center, IA 50638.

A.L. Moore-Grimshaw Mortuaries Bethany Chapel handled the arrangements in Phoenix. A full obituary is available at their website: www.almoore-grimshaw.com.

He was born to Orie P. and Emma J. Ryan in Poweshiek County on Sept. 28, 1930. He graduated from Grinnell High School, where he played guard on the high school's highly successful varsity basketball team. During high school he also helped his father on the farm, and also worked at restaurants in town, including at Candyland where he learned to make an ice cream dish which he stirred up for visitors all his life.

He served four years in the U.S. Air Force, then studied for one semester at the University of Arizona before returning to Iowa to help his family provide care for his mother. He was united in marriage with Madonna Kay Wright of Nevada, Iowa, in November 1954. He later earned a Bachelor of Science degree in electrical engineering from ISU in 1958, and worked as an engineer and power consultant in Washington, DC. for the Rural Electrification Administration; in Grundy Center for the Rural Electric Cooperative; in Marion for the Central Iowa Power Cooperative; and overseas in Bangladesh, India, Nepal and the Philippines before retiring in 1999.

His devotion to his family was paramount to him. He loved golf and cribbage and, in later years, cards.

He is survived by his wife Madonna of Grundy Center; four sons, Patrick of Marshalltown, Joel of Prescott, Ariz., Bradley of Flagstaff, Ariz., and Jeffrey of Phoenix, Ariz.; six grandchildren; one great-granddaughter; four sisters, Helen Woodward of Farmington, NM, Lola Horning of Scottsdale, Ariz., Phyllis Lowe of Phoenix and Patty J. Ryan of Phoenix; and many other relations.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his brothers Wesley, Everett, Merle, Richard Eldon, Harold and Donald, and sister Pauline Peters.