Obituaries

Max Marion Speas, 90

Max Marion Speas, 90, of New Sharon died August 29, 2008 at the Mahaska County Hospital. Funeral services were held at the Harden Funeral Home in New Sharon with Pastor Phil Schrauben officiating. Burial was at the Union Mills Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to the New Sharon Ambulance or the New Sharon Fire Department.

Max Marion Speas, son of David and Georgia (Friend) Speas was born July 20, 1918 near Montezuma. Max was a 1936 graduate of Montezuma High School. On June 24, 1941 he enlisted in the United States Army, serving in World War II. After his honorable discharge in 1945 he returned home and drove a semi for Ruan Trucking. In June of 1947, he was united in marriage to Lois Irene Stutzman. In 1950 Max and Lois began the M & L Grocery Store in New Sharon.

After closing the grocery store they opened the M&L Department Store. Max also worked for the Harden Funeral Home in New Sharon after he and his wife sold the department store. After the death of his first wife in 1995 he married Maxine Fern Svenson in 1997. Max enjoyed golfing and watching the local high school sporting events. He was a member of the First Christian Church of New Sharon where he served as a Deacon for a number of years. He was also a member of Mahaska Masonic Lodge 336 A.F. & A.M. for more than 60 years. He was a lifetime member of the Coffin Miller American Legion Post 446, a member of the New Sharon Fire Department for more than 20 years and also served on the New Sharon City Council.

Max is survived by his wife, Maxine; a brother, Lyle (Marilyn) Speas of Fairfield; a sister, Mildred (Ron) Moitzfield of Detroit Lake, Minnesota; a step daughter-in-law, Jeanette Svenson of Denver, Colo.; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his first wife Lois; stepson, Wayne Svenson; a sister and her husband, Lela and Mark Simpson



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