Lawrence "Pat" Vercande, 86

Lawrence "Pat" Vercande, age 86 of Brooklyn, died Thursday, Oct. 2, 2008, at the Grinnell Regional Medical Center, Grinnell, from complications of Parkinson's disease and pneumonia. Mass of Christian Burial was held at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 4, at Kloster-Nevenhoven Funeral Home, Brooklyn, with Father Philip Ryan officiating. Burial was in the Calvary Cemetery, Brooklyn, with military honors. A memorial fund has been established.

Casket bearers were Dustin Vercande, Kenneth Schultz, Dale Vercande, Dallas Patterson, Chad Lindquist, and Benny Vercande.

He is survived by his wife, Maxine; two sons, Dennis of Brooklyn, and Ronald (Javerne) of Brooklyn; four grandchildren, Jessi Patterson and Jenni Vercande, Diana Lindquist, and Dustin Vercande; two great-grandchildren, Kegan Patterson and Sydni Patterson; a brother, Vernon Vercande of Marengo; and three sisters, Mae Zuber of Williamsburg, Lenore Benest of Marion, and Jean Disterhoft of Oregon.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a brother, Cloyd "JC" Vercande; two sisters, Anna Kruse, and Irene in early childhood.

Lawrence F. "Pat" Vercande was born March 24, 1922, in Williamsburg, the son of Camil and Ines Pierce Vercande. He received his education in the Williamsburg schools and graduated from Williamsburg High School in 1941. He served in the U.S. Army Air Force from 1942-45 in the European Theatre. He was a mechanic, and crew chief on P47 fighter planes. He served in Normandy, Rhineland, northern France, Ardennes and central Europe. He received the Belgium Fourragere, six Bronze stars, and the Distinguished Unit Badge, Pat married Maxine Kann on Feb. 18, 1946, at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Brooklyn. He farmed in the Brooklyn area for 63 years. He spent several years living at the Brooklyn Community Estate

Lawrence was a member of the Francis Gallagher American Legion Post 294, and St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Brooklyn. The couple enjoyed attending Air Force reunions including the ones held in Europe. While in high school, Pat wrestled and achieved a state title which still stands today.

Online condolences may be exteneded to the family via the Web site www.kloster-funeralhome.com.

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