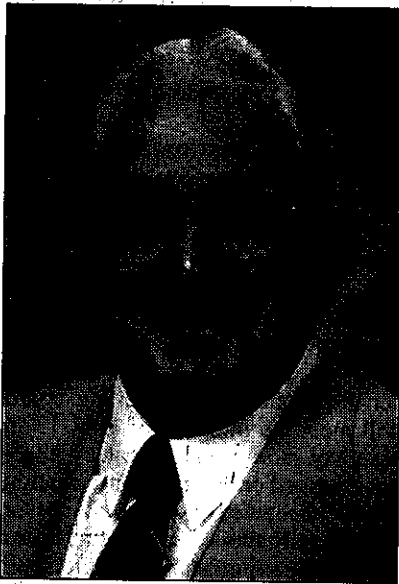


Robert 'Bob' Groves



Robert "Bob" Groves, 73, of Grinnell died Nov. 10, 2012, of Alzheimer's disease, at St. Francis Manor in Grinnell.

A funeral mass has been scheduled for 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 14, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Grinnell with Rev. Nick Adam officiating. Organist will be Marilyn Kriegel. Pallbearers will be Mike, Chris and Nick Groves, Brett Lakose, Seth Signs and Robert Groves. Burial will be in Sheridan Cemetery, rural Grinnell.

Visitation will be held from 12 noon to 8 p.m. Tuesday at Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell, with the family present from 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday evening.

Memorial contributions may be directed to the Robert D. Groves Memorial Fund.

Bob was born Dec. 13, 1938, in rural Tama County. He grew up on a farm northwest of Toledo and later moved to Toledo in 1953. He was a 1956 graduate of Toledo High School. He was a veteran of the United States Army serving with the 1st Armored Division, known as "Old Ironsides." He was drafted during the Berlin Crisis, served during the Cuban Crisis and on alert for Viet Nam duty while in the reserves. He was honorably discharged in 1967.

On July 30, 1960, he was united in marriage with Karen Petersen, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Grinnell. The couple made their home in Grinnell where they raised their family. He was a member of St. Mary's and the Poweshiek County Pioneer Cemetery Commission.

Bob spent most of his adult life doing what was near and dear to his heart: ensuring that the children of Iowa made it to school and back safely. He started in automotive mechanics in the 1950s and even worked on tanks in the U.S. Army before working as a bus driver and mechanic in Grinnell for more than a decade. Later as a state school bus inspector, he spent more than 25 years not only overseeing school bus maintenance, but also working on governmental issues related to school bus safety. He was chosen as one of the inaugural Heroes by Example of the Iowa Transportation Museum. His 34 years of involvement with school buses while serving as mechanic, driver and state inspector showed his devotion to public safety.

He enjoyed family activities,

traveling, music and collecting books on old cars, and held a passion as an historian on the Civil War and old cemeteries.

Survivors include his wife, Karen of Grinnell; three sons, Mike Groves of Grinnell, Chris Groves of Columbia, Mo., and Nick Groves of Indianapolis, Ind.; one sister, Pat Eggers of Phoenix, Ariz.; four grandchildren; and one great-granddaughter. He was preceded in death by his parents and one brother, Donald Groves.

Robert Groves, 73

Robert "Bob" Groves, 73, of Grinnell died Nov. 10, 2012, of Alzheimer's disease, at St. Francis Manor in Grinnell.

A funeral mass has been scheduled for 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 14, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Grinnell with Rev. Nick Adam officiating. Organist will be Marilyn Kriegel. Pallbearers will be Mike, Chris and Nick Groves, Brett Lakose, Seth Signs and Robert Groves. Burial will be in Sheridan Cemetery, rural Grinnell.

Visitation will be held from 12:00 to 8:00 p.m. Tuesday at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell and with the family present from 6:00 to 8:00 Tuesday evening.

Memorial contributions may be directed to the Robert D. Groves Memorial Fund.

Bob was born Dec. 13, 1938, in rural Tama County, Iowa. He grew up on a farm northwest of Toledo and later moved to Toledo in 1953. He was a 1956 graduate of Toledo High School. He was a veteran of the United States Army serving with the 1st Armored Division, known as "Old Ironsides." He was drafted during the Berlin Crisis, served during the Cuban Crisis and on alert for Viet Nam duty while in the reserves. He was honorably discharged in 1967.

On July 30, 1960, he was united in marriage to Karen Petersen, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Grinnell. The couple made their home in Grinnell where they raised their family. He was a member of St. Mary's and the Poweshiek County Pioneer Cemetery Commission.

Bob spent most of his adult life doing one thing that was near and dear to his heart: ensuring that the children of Iowa made it to school and back safely. He started in automotive mechanics in the 1950s and even worked on tanks in the United States Army before working as a bus driver and mechanic in Grinnell for more than a decade. Later as a state school bus inspector, he spent more than 25 years not only overseeing school bus maintenance, but also working on governmental issues related to school bus safety. Bob was chosen as one of the inaugural Heroes by Example of the Iowa Transportation Museum. His 34 years of involvement with school buses while serving as mechanic, driver and state inspector showed his devotion to public safety.

He enjoyed family activities, traveling, music and collecting books on old cars. He held a passion as an historian on the Civil War and old cemeteries.

Survivors include his wife, Karen of Grinnell; three sons, Mike (Jolene McKeag) Groves of Grinnell, Chris (Patricia) Groves of Columbia, Mo., and Nick Groves of Indianapolis, Ind.; one sister, Pat Eggers of Phoenix, Ariz.; four grandchildren, Ashley Lakose, Nicole Groves, Seth Signs and Robert Groves; and one great-granddaughter, Faith Lynn. He was preceded in death by his parents and one brother, Donald Groves.

64-R 11-12-2012

PCL R 11-14-2012