

## Keith Miller, 91

Keith Miller, 91, of New Sharon passed away Sunday, Dec. 9, 2012 at the Mahaska Health Partnership in Oskaloosa. Funeral services were held at 10:30 a.m., Thursday, Dec. 13, at the New Sharon United Methodist Church. Interment was in Highland Cemetery in New Sharon. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be directed to the Coffin-Miller American Legion Post #446 or the New Sharon Fire and Rescue. Friends may send online condolences at [www.hollandcobblefuneralhomes.com](http://www.hollandcobblefuneralhomes.com). Holland-Coble Funeral Home of New Sharon is in charge of arrangements.

Keith Leroy Miller, son of Roy "Pete" and Mayme (Stonehocker) Miller, was born on Dec. 8, 1921 east of New Sharon. He attended grade school at Taintor and graduated from New Sharon High School in 1939. On Dec. 23, 1939, Keith was united in marriage to Laura Fisk. To this union one daughter was born, Patricia. Keith owned and operated a Tiling Company in New Sharon for 25 years, laying millions of feet of clay tile. Keith served as Mayor of New Sharon for 46 years. While in office, they built a new water tower system consisting of 3 wells, a new water tower and an aeration and filter system. They also updated the New Sharon sewer system, started a 25 home development, obtained city gas, an electric franchise and brought a cable company to town.

Keith served on the New Sharon Fire and Rescue for over 42 years and was a member of the Mahaska Lodge for over 60 years; serving as secretary for the past 50 years. While Keith was on the board as a Masonic Friends, they donated approximately half a million dollars to build an eight stall fire station, a medical building, a new library and remodeled the old fire station into a community building to hold almost all community affairs. He was a member of the Coffin-Miller American Legion Post #446 for over 60 years and served as commander for one year and sergeant at arms for 58 years. Keith was a charter member of the Prairie Knolls Country Club for 58 years and was also Golf Superintendent for 18 years. Together, Keith and Laura built the Dairy Creme Drive-in in 1955, which they operated for 11 years before selling it. He also collected over 88 different makes of tractors that they took to many different tractor events and parades.

He was involved in delivering meals on wheels twice a month. He also contributed to the community by being a charter member for 35 years of Prairie Homes Apartments for the elderly. He was a charter member of the Mahaska Landfill committee for 30 years and chairman for 18 years. He served on the Mahaska County Board of Health for 30 years and was a member of the Mahaska County tax conference board for 44 years and the classification board for 30 years. Keith drove a school bus for 40 years and drove a team bus for 25 years and ran the sports clock for 25 years. Keith was also involved in many private business deals that included a family restaurant, grocery store and the family theater that was opened in 1940 by Bob Friedley.

Keith is survived by his daughter, Patricia (Dahl) Wickham of Montezuma; two grandchildren, Terri (Kevin) Rempp of Montezuma and Randy (Patti Casper) Wickham of Montezuma; five great grandchildren, Wes (Laura) Wickham, Kristie Wickham, Heather (Ryan) Ellis, Drew (Brittany) Rempp and Katie Mathes; six great-great grandchildren, Tyler, Dustin, Tayler, Alison, Lana Lou and Baby Boy Rempp; brother, Bill (Rose) Miller of Chicago; and Keith's companion, Millie Venator.

Keith is preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Laura in 2001; and four siblings, Marvin Miller, Jack Miller, Paul Miller and Maxine Speas.

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