

Dale Gordon Ulch, 76

PCCR 11-21-2012

Dale Gordon Ulch, 88, of Elberon, Iowa, died on Tuesday, Nov. 14, 2012 at St. Luke's Hospital in Cedar Rapids. Funeral services were held on Monday, Nov. 19, at St. Michael's Catholic Church, Belle Plaine, with the Deacon Joe Behounek officiating.

The organist was Judy Parizek and the cantor was Evan Hrabak. Casket bearers were Brian Benzel, Roger Ollinger, Vince Barloon, Greg Buelow, Christopher Ollinger, and

Mike Weaver. Honorary casket bearers were Butchy Beah Benzel, Emma Benzel, Ava Ollinger, Colton Benzel, and Tracy Ollinger.

Burial was at the National Cemetery, Vining, with the Jennings-Bradshaw American Legion Post #39, Belle Plaine, providing military rites.

Hrabak Funeral Home, Belle Plaine, was in charge of the arrangements.

Dale was born Sept. 7, 1924 at home in Elberon, to Fred and Tillie (Vochaska) Ulch. He received a 12th grade education from the one room schoolhouse in Elberon. After graduation, Dale hired out as a farmhand, and met his future wife of 63 years, Ruth Ann (Weaver). They became sweethearts in the fall of 1944, but decided to postpone marriage until Dale's return from naval service during WWII. Dale was stationed on the Iowa Class battleship, U.S.S. Missouri, from 1944-46, and as a Seaman First Class, spotted for the 5 inch guns. He was always proud of his navy days, especially his witness of the formal surrender ceremonies of the Japanese in Tokyo Harbor in August, 1945.

Dale and Ruth Ann were married on Nov. 29, 1947. They spent 22 years farming Ruth Ann's parents' farm. Later, he worked for Dutch Ehlen in Belle Plaine, and then for Sindt Implement in Keystone until his retirement. He also farmed for many years.

Dale enjoyed nature including fishing, camping, and making wood. He made many kinds of wine. He liked playing cards, listening and dancing to polkas and country music. He was always ready with a quick joke or good advice to his friends and family.

Dale was preceded in death by his wife, Ruth Ann. He is survived by two brothers; Harold (Harry) and Joyce of Cedar Hills, Mo., and John and Alice of Beaver Crossing, Neb. Children include his daughters, Beverly (Robert "Bob") Benzel of Commerce City, Colo., and Doris (Roger) Ollinger of Cedar Rapids; son Robert "Bob" (Johnnette) of Belle Plaine. Dale was blessed with four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. He will be missed by all of us.