

Roger Bruce Watson, 78

Roger Bruce Watson, 78, of Montezuma, passed away Sunday, March 31, 2013, at the Grinnell Regional Medical Center. Funeral services were held at 2 p.m., Thursday, April 4, at the Holland-Coble Funeral Home in Montezuma with the Rev. Eldon Pals officiating. Burial was in the Jackson Township Cemetery at Montezuma. The family strongly prefers, rather than flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Montezuma Fire Department. Friends may send condolences or sign the online guestbook at www.hollandcoblefuneralhomes.com.

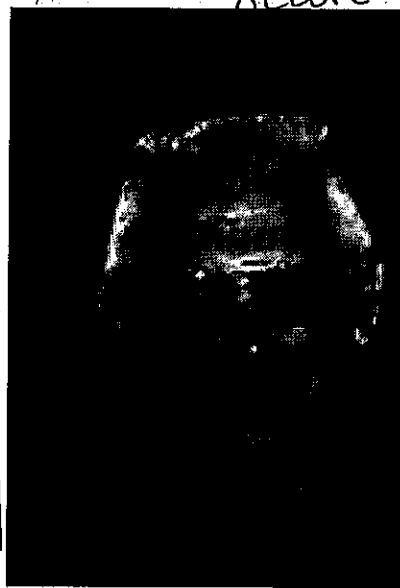
Roger was born Aug. 10, 1934, in Poweshiek County, the son of Marvin and Mary Gwendolyn Orcutt Watson. He attended school in Searsboro and graduated from Searsboro High School class of 1952. He started his printing career as a pressman at Sutherland Printing Company in Montezuma following graduation. In May 1953, Roger was struck with polio and spent months in the iron lung at a Des Moines hospital. While the polio weakened his left leg, he went on to lead a normal life, refusing to consider himself handicapped by the disease.

On June 24, 1955, he was united in marriage with Donna Hall, at the Malcolm Presbyterian Church. To this union, three children were born and raised in the Montezuma community. In 1971, Roger opened Watson Litho Printing in Montezuma, which he owned and operated until his retirement in 1998. Roger was very community minded and saw great value in giving back to the community by serving. He was active in Lions, Knights of Pythians and Meals on Wheels. Roger donated 13 gallons of blood in more than 100 blood drives. He was also an organ donor at his death. Roger loved to play golf, and in recent years, enjoyed riding along on the golf cart on Friday nights. He spent many hours at the Phillips farm, helping with farm activities, and playing cribbage and cards with Ralph. He enjoyed a good card game, whether it was around the dining room table with his children and grandchildren, or regularly scheduled card games with friends.

His family includes his wife of 57 years, Donna Watson of Montezuma; daughter, Deb, and Mike Phillips of Montezuma; son, Tim, and Darla Watson of Fort Worth, Texas; daughter, Julie, and Wes Mathes of Madrid; grandchildren, Jill and Rob Hazen (Alexander and Emily), Kaela Phillips, Lindsay Phillips, Andrea Watson, Brandon Watson (Jaidyn), Kyle Mathes (Lexi) and Brett Mathes; and sister, Marlene, and George Milligan of Cedar Rapids.

He was preceded in death by his parents; and sister, Connie Martin.

PCCR 4-10-2013



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Pallbearers were grandchildren: Jill (Phillips) and Rob Hazen, Kaela and Lindsay Phillips, Andrea and Brandon Watson, and Kyle and Brett Mathes. Honorary bearers will be Tom Behounek, Phil Evans, Larry Homes, Larry Huff, Mark Lechtenberg, Eugene Mann, Loren Roorda and Frank Wheeler.

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