

Michael L. Needham

64R 8-26-2013



Michael L. Needham, 70, of Kellogg, died Tuesday, Aug. 20, 2013, at the Veterans Affairs Central Iowa Health Care System in Des Moines.

A celebration of his life was held Monday, Aug. 26, at the Christian Church in Grinnell with Pastor Andre Norman and Pastor John Epperson officiating. Honorary bearers were Lonnie Fults, Dick Gosselink, Paul White, Phil Gibbons, Denny Wilson and Larry Stewart. Interment with military rites was held at the Woodland Cemetery in Lynnville.

Memorials may be designated in his name to the Wounded Warrior Project and Disabled American Veterans, mailed in care of Smith Funeral Home, PO Box 368, Grinnell, Iowa 50112. Memories and condolence may be shared with the family at www.smithfh.com.

Michael was born the son of Walter Lee and Frances Colene Sparks Needham on April 4, 1943, in Oskaloosa. He was raised in Lynnville and attended Lynnville-Sully schools.

Michael honorably served in the United States Army during the Vietnam War as a specialist and was awarded the Bronze Star for valor. Michael was recently honored for his military service by the Jasper County Freedom Flight. He worked for Maytag in Newton where he retired after 33 years.

Michael was an outdoorsman who loved bow hunting, fishing and camping. He also enjoyed going to drag races at the Eddyville Speedway,

cooking, grilling, and traveling.

Michael is survived by his wife, Lori Needham of Kellogg; son, Rob Needham of Victor; daughter, Michelle Andrews of Grinnell; eight grandchildren; step-children James Owen of Longmont, Colo., and Julie Barrett of Robinson, Texas, and his brothers, Terry Needham of Newton, and Gary Needham of Cedar Falls, Iowa.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his brother, Tim Needham.

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A celebration of his life will be held at 10:30 a.m., Monday, Aug. 26, 2013, at the Christian Church in Grinnell. Interment with military rites will be held at the Woodland Cemetery in Lynnville.

Visitation will be held from 12 noon until 5 p.m. on Sunday at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell, with the family present to greet friends from 2 until 5 p.m.

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