

Record 10-16-2014

RICHARD JAMES SMITH

Richard Smith 81 of What Cheer died Thursday, October 2, 2014. Funeral services were held on Tuesday, October 7, 2014 at the Holland-Coble



Funeral Home in What Cheer. Burial was in the Indianapolis Cemetery. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.hollandcoblefuneralhomes.com.

Richard James Smith was born on his family's farm west of What Cheer on December 20, 1932, the son of Walter John Smith and Bessie Mae Strong. He attended the Fisher school before coming to town where he became a 1951 graduate of the What Cheer High School. At age 15, his father died and Richard stepped up to fill his father's shoes on the farm. While still a boy, he managed to keep up with his farming responsibilities while attending high school and playing football. Richard worked several years as a foreman at Kingsberry Homes and Brandywine Homes. He also worked at the University of Iowa Hospital for 15 years, mowed the Indianapolis Cemetery for 61 years and worked until just recently at CPS in Gibson. Richard enjoyed farming, woodworking, attending auctions and traveling on bus tours with his wife.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a sister, Mildred Catzer; a step sister, Virginia Maxwell; and a granddaughter, Olivia Van Dalen.

Richard is survived by his wife Dorothy Smith of What Cheer; a son, Paul Smith of What Cheer; three daughters, Paulette German of New Sharon, Patricia Van Dalen of Oskaloosa and Priscilla (Sam) Ferree; nine grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.