

Gary D. Connelly



Gary D. Connelly, 48, of Grinnell died Thursday, March 24, of apparent heart failure while vacationing with his family in Playa del Carmen, Mexico.

Funeral arrangements are pending at the Kaiser-Corson Funeral Home in Waverly. The funeral home can be reached via phone at (319) 352-1187, and can found on the web at www.kaisercorson.com.

He was born on Jan. 18, 1957, in Washington, Iowa, the son of Dale and Corrine Siemsen Connelly. He graduated from Washington High School in 1975 and enrolled at Iowa State University, where he stayed for a year; he finished his studies at the University of Northern Iowa in 1979, earning a BA

in industrial technology. He taught industrial technology for a time in Beaver Dam, Wis., and Mt. Pleasant, Iowa.

In 1981, he left teaching, moved to Waverly, Iowa, and began working for Scheel's Hardware Store in Cedar Falls.

On May 21, 1983, he married Becky Dornbusch at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Waverly.

After briefly working for Stume Lumber in Waverly, he began his career with Grinnell Mutual Reinsurance Co. He was transferred to Litchfield, Ill., for several years - where the couple's two daughters were born - before moving to Grinnell in the summer of 1991, when he was brought into the company's home office. He eventually attained the rank of assistant vice president of reinsurance.

Dan Agnew, president of the reinsurance company, said Connelly "was a true gentleman in the eyes of the reinsurance world. He rose through the corporate ranks and became an assistant vice president through his expertise in the industry, dedication to the company and his ability to work well with people."

He enjoyed caring for his lawn and his home, golfing and meeting people. He loved his work and those he worked with. His greatest pleasure came from his family; he loved traveling with them and caring for them.

He is survived by his wife and his two daughters, Samantha and Jenna; and his brother Ken of Cedar Falls. He was preceded in death by his parents.

Gary D. Connelly

Gary D. Connelly, 48, of Grinnell, formerly of Waverly, died Thursday, March 24, 2005, of an apparent heart attack while vacationing with his family at Playa del Carmen, Mexico.

A funeral service will be held Friday, April 1, 2005, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Waverly with burial in Riverside Cemetery in Shell Rock. Visitation will be held Thursday from 4 to 8 p.m. at at Kaiser-Corson Funeral Home in Waverly with a scripture service at 7 p.m.

A memorial service also was held Wednesday, March 30, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Grinnell.

Memorials may be sent to the Gary Connelly Memorial Fund in care of his family.

A complete obituary with the exception of services appeared in the Monday, March 28, issue of the Grinnell Herald-Register.

H-R MARCH 31, 2005

H-R MARCH 28, 2005