

Rev. John W. Darlington, 83



The Rev. John W. Darlington, 83, of Grinnell, died on Sunday, March 6, 2005 at the Mayflower Home Health Care Center in Grinnell.

His memorial service was held Saturday, March

12, at the Grinnell United Methodist Church with the Rev. Len Eberhart, pastor of the church, officiating. Interment was at Jackson Township Cemetery in Montezuma. Smith Funeral Home of Grinnell was in charge of the arrangements.

John was born on May 14, 1921, in Des Moines, Iowa to Charles and Francis Townsend Darlington. He was raised in Des Moines and graduated from North High School with the Class of 1939. He attended Iowa State University and graduated from Simpson College in Indianola. On June 11, 1943, he was married to Berta Jeanne McBride in Des Moines. The couple moved to Evanston, Ill., where he graduated from the Garrett Biblical Institute. John was a United Methodist pastor who served churches

in Melcher, Milton, Prairie City, Woodward, Des Moines and Montezuma. He also was visitation pastor for the United Methodist Church in Grinnell.

Following the death of wife Berta he was married to Caroline Stover on Oct. 16, 1978. The couple lived in Montezuma until November 1999 when they moved to the Mayflower Home in Grinnell. John enjoyed woodworking, photography, building model airplanes, fishing and reading to his grandchildren. He also enjoyed classical music and was dedicated to his parishioners. He was a member of the Democratic Party.

Survivors include wife Caroline Stover Darlington of Grinnell; two daughters, Judy Gilmore of Iowa City and Cathy Cate of Johnston; one son, John Darlington of Minneapolis, Minn.; two stepsons, Charles Stover and Roger Stover, both of Norwalk; ten grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren and one brother, Henry Darlington of Nevada City, Calif.

He was preceded in death by his first wife, Berta, and his infant older sister, Katherine.

Memorials in his name may be dedicated to the United Methodist Committee on Relief or the Gideon Society and sent in care of the Smith Funeral Home,

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The Rev. John Darlington, 83, of Grinnell died Sunday, March 6, 2005, at Mayflower Health Care Center.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, March 12, at 11 a.m. at Grinnell United Methodist Church with the Rev. Len Eberhart, pastor of the church, officiating. Interment will be in Jackson Township Cemetery, rural Montezuma. Memorials may be made to Methodist Missionaries, % Smith Funeral Home, PO Box 368, Grinnell or the Gideon Society.

He was born May 14, 1921, in Des Moines, the son of Charles and Francis Townsend Darlington. He was a graduate of North High School in Des Moines with the Class of 1939. He attended Iowa State University, then graduated from Simpson College in Indianola. On June 11, 1943, he was married to Berta Jeanne McBride in Des Moines. They moved to Evanston, Ill., where he graduated from Garrett Theological Seminary.

He was a United Methodist pastor who served churches in Melcher, Milton, Prairie City, Woodward, Des Moines and Montezuma. He also was a visitation pastor for the Grinnell United Methodist Church. Following the death of his wife Berta, he was married to Carolyn Stover on Oct. 16, 1978. They lived in Montezuma until moving to Mayflower in 1999. He was a member the Democratic party. He enjoyed woodworking, photography, building model airplanes, fishing and reading to his grandchildren as well as classical music and was dedicated to his parishioners.

He is survived by his wife, Carolyn Stover Darlington of Grinnell; two daughters, Judy Gilmore of Iowa City and Cathy Cate of Johnston; one son John Darlington, of Minneapolis, Minn; two stepsons Charles Stover and Roger Stover, both of Norwalk; ten grandchildren; 16 great grandchildren and one brother Henry Darlington of Nevada City, Calif. He was preceded in death by his parents, his first wife Berta and an infant older sister.

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