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8-3-2017

## James G. Brown

James G. Brown, 75, of Ocala, Florida, and formerly of Grinnell, Iowa, died on Sunday, July 30, 2017, at the Timber Ridge Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Ocala.

A funeral service will be held at 10:00 a.m., Saturday, August 5, 2017, at the Calvary Baptist Church in Grinnell with the Rev. Eldon Pals officiating. Music will be provided by Teresa Thompson. The Grinnell Veterans Ceremonial Unit will provide military honors at Hazelwood Cemetery in Grinnell.

The Smith Funeral Home of Grinnell is in charge of arrangements.

Memorials may be directed to the James G. Brown Memorial Fund and sent in care of the Smith Funeral Home, P.O. Box 368, Grinnell, Iowa 50112.

James was born on November 11, 1941, in Grinnell, Iowa, to Ellis LeRoy and Ruth Edith Gross Brown. He was raised on the family farm northeast of Grinnell. While in high school James participated in FFA, wrestling and football before graduating from Grinnell High School in 1960. He honorably served in the United States Air Force during the Vietnam War. In 1969, he graduated from the University of Iowa with a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in accounting.

On July 29, 1966, he was united in marriage to An Thi Dong and to this union were born two children, Otto and Kim. The couple lived in Iowa City, Honolulu, Hawaii, Anaheim, California, and Grinnell before settling in Ocala, Florida, in 1972. An Thi preceded James in death, and he remarried on February 18, 2012, to Judith Lee Weeks.

James was a man of few words but his actions spoke for his deep faith in God and how he cared for all of those with whom he came in contact. His passions in life were his family, friends and mowing for hours on his Kubota tractor. He was actively involved in Kiwanis, organizing and cooking for men's breakfast at the church, water aerobics at Grinnell College and a daily dose of "wisdom hour" at the McDonalds. He loved gatherings with family and friends where he could tell his newest puns and many jokes.

Making people happy through fellowship and food gave him the most joy. As a proud father and grandpa he always shared news and pictures of his kids and grandkids. If he had one weakness in life it was pie, and the highest standard was his mother, Ruth's pie.

Those left to honor his memory are his wife of five years, Judith Lee Brown of Ocala, Florida; son, Otto (wife, Jennifer) Brown of Ocala, Florida; daughter, Kim (husband, Robert) Brown-Baker of New York, New York; four grandchildren, Peyton, Bailey, Brady and Juniper; step-daughter Amber (husband, Kevin) Reinhold of Kewanna, Indiana; two step-grandsons, Keegen and Adam; sister, Judy Cook of Grinnell, Iowa; and brother, Rodney (wife, Sue) Brown of Los Cruces, New Mexico. He was preceded in death by his parents, Ellis Brown in 2003, Ruth Brown in 2005, and brother Ben in 2015.

