

Gerrit Bandstra, 85, Pella

Gerrit Bandstra, 85, of Pella passed away April 10, 2006. Funeral services were held April 14, at the Trinity Reformed Church in Pella. Interment was held at Oakwood Cemetery in Pella. Memorials may be designated to the Taintor Community Church or Hospice of Pella Comfort House.



G. Bandstra

Gerrit John Bandstra was born in Albia, on April 11, 1920. He was the son of Anne (Andrew) and Adriana (Jennie) De Jong Bandstra. After moving with his family to the Taintor area, Gerrit attended school at the Taintor Independent School and then helped on the family farm.

On Dec. 18, 1941, he was united in marriage with Cornelia Kay Van Wyngarden at the home of her parents, Walter and Sadie (Stursma) Van Wyngarden, near Lower Grove. To this union three children were born: Sheryl, Kathleen, and Gene. He was a farmer all of his life. When he and Kay married, they purchased a family farm near Taintor and lived there for over 56 years.

Those left to cherish his life are his wife, Kay, their children and their families. They are: Sheryl Joyce and James F. Jim Gallagher of Indianola, Tammy and Todd Greenslit of Norwalk, Hunter Reid,

Caleb and Joshua, Troy and Michelle (Dinville) Van Maaren of Kelley, Tori, Eric, Connor and Hayden, Travis and Chantelle (Haines) Van Marren of Radcliffe, Lyndi, Gerrit, Holland; Kathleen Kay and Gary E. Miller of Springfield, IL; Gene Arlan and Jana Kae (Lewis) Bandstra of New Sharon, Jenell and Brad Steel of New Sharon, Kassidi, Braden, Brandon Bandstra of Lynnvile.

Of his original family, Gerrit leaves sister-in-law, Gerdene Van Ryswyk (Dick) Bandstra of Knoxville; brothers, James Everett and Tena Mae (Van Wyngarden) Bandstra of Peoria, and Dr. Andrew J. and Mae Ruth (Stursma) Bandstra of Grand Rapids, MI. He was preceded in death by his parents; sister Gertrude and Leonard Dahm; sister Nellie and Gysbert Vroegh; brother Paul and Mildred (Verhey) Bandstra; brother Dick Bandstra; sister Tena and Cornie Dahm and brother Bert and Tresa (Van Wyngarden) Bandstra. Gerrit was baptized in the Eddyville Christian Reformed Church. He became a member of Peoria Christian Reformed Church, the Sully Reformed Church, and Trinity Reformed Church in Pella. Gerrit was also active in the Taintor Community Church and helped with construction of the new church at its present location.