

The Rev. Scott Libbey



The Rev. Scott Smith Libbey, 76, of Grinnell died Monday, March 13.

Memorial celebrations will be held on Monday, March 20, at 2 p.m. at the United Church of Christ-Congregational in Grinnell with the Rev. Kathy Reid as officiant and on Tuesday, March 21, at 11 a.m. at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ in Des Moines, with the Rev. David Ruhe as officiant. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Investing in Ministry of the Iowa Conference, United Church of Christ, Des Moines; to Mayflower Retirement Homes Human Needs Endowment Fund, Grinnell, or to Plymouth Church, The Center for Spiritual Growth, Des Moines.

He was born in 1929 in Ames and graduated from Fort Dodge High School in 1947. He received the bachelor of arts degree in psychology from the University of Iowa in 1951 and the master of divinity degree from Chicago Theological Seminary in 1954. He was married to Jean Lundblad in Fort Dodge in 1953.

He served the First Congregational Church in Red Oak beginning in 1955; became director of Christian Education for the Congregational Christian Conference of Iowa in Grinnell in 1959; joined the Church Board of Homeland Ministries Division of Christian Education in Philadelphia, Pa., in 1961; served as Nebraska Conference Minister in Lincoln beginning in 1969; became Conference Minister of Iowa in Des Moines in 1971 and executive vice president of the former United Church Board for World Ministries in New York and Cleveland in 1984.

The Libbeys retired to Des Moines in 1994 and moved to Mayflower in Grinnell in 2004.

He is survived by his wife Jean of Grinnell; four children, Laura Sandness of Hayfield, Minn., Jan Libbey of Kanawha, Iowa, Steve Libbey of Ames, and Joan Langer of Fort Collins, Colo.; and six grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents and two brothers, Homer and Howard.