

C. Wesley Randell



C. Wesley Randell, 69, of Des Moines died Sunday, Jan. 15, as he and his wife of 18 years, Nancy, were flying from Panama City, Panama, to San Jose, Costa Rica. Both were killed in the crash.

Funeral services for Wes and Nancy Randell will be held at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 25, at Plymouth Congregational Church at 4126 Ingersoll Ave. in Des Moines, followed by a private burial at Forest Cemetery in Oskaloosa.

Visitation is scheduled for Tuesday, Jan. 24, at Dunn's Funeral Home, at 2121 Grand Ave. in Des Moines, from 4 to 7 p.m. The family will be present to receive guests.

Born Aug. 10, 1936 in the down of Cedar in Mahaska County, he was the son of Frank and Jenetta Randell. He graduated from Cedar High School in 1954 and earned his B.S. in agriculture from Iowa State University in 1958. He earned his M.S. in economics from the University of Missouri in 1972.

In 1957, he married Shirley E. Plantan in Oskaloosa. He farmed for 10 years in Mahaska County. In 1969, the couple moved with their three young children to Ejura in Ghana, Africa, where he served as a project director for farm development.

He became foreign market director for the American Soybean Association in 1972, while the family lived in Cedar Falls. In 1974, he formed Iowa Swine Exports, Midwest Soya and C.W. Randell Exports, corporations which exported Iowa livestock and grain. He was instrumental in designing a double-deck system used by Trans-International Airways to transport up to 900 head of breeding swine to countries which included Taiwan, Korea, Singapore, Malaysia and the Philippines. During that time, he and his son, Conrad, made their first trip to Costa Rica.

On June 21, 1987, he married Nancy Buxton in Des Moines. He was vice president of Wachovia Securities.

He was a member of Plymouth Con-

gregational church and a deacon there. He was also an active member of the Downtown Des Moines Rotary and past board member of the Plaza Condominium Association. He was a member of the Midwest Bonanza Society and the Masonic Lodge. He enjoyed flying, tennis, golf, boating and family activities.

He is survived by daughters Laurie Griffin of Waterloo and Angela Gwinn of Akron, Ohio; a son, Conrad Randell II of West Des Moines; six grandchildren; four stepchildren; four step-grandchildren; two sisters, Vivian Myer of Florissant, Mo. and Betty Ann Battey of Grinnell; and a foster sister-in-law, Virginia Keeran, of Boulder City, Nev.

A memorial fund has been established in the Randells' name at Plymouth Congregational Church in Des Moines.