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2-8-2018
Jack Allen Templeton

Jack A. Templeton, age 93, died on Tuesday, February 6, 2018, at St. Francis Manor in Grinnell.

A funeral service will be held at 10:00 a.m., Saturday, February 10, 2018, at St. John's Lutheran Church in Grinnell with Pastor Kathy Roys officiating. Visitation will be held prior to the service beginning at 9:00 a.m. at the church. Interment with military rites will be at Hazelwood Cemetery in Grinnell. A reception will follow at St. John's Lutheran Church.

Memorials may be designated to St. John's Lutheran Church or Honor Flight Inc., mailed in care of the Smith Funeral Home, P.O. Box 368, Grinnell, Iowa 50112. Condolences may be shared with his family online at www.smithfh.com.



Jack Allen Templeton was born on September 5, 1924, to Dr. Leo Templeton and Minnie Detering Templeton in Creston, Iowa. He was the class President and the Salutatorian of the Creston High School class of 1942. In 1943, he enlisted in the United States Merchant Marine as a cadet midshipman. He was assigned to the SS Henry Bergh which was a Liberty transport ship that supported the war effort in southeast Asia. During the voyage, he was elevated to the position of 3rd mate. Upon his return in 1944, he was drafted into the United States Army. He was assigned to the Tenth Infantry Regiment of the Fifth Army Division. He often stated that he joined the 10th on the 10th day of December 1944. He served under General George Patton and in the Battle of the Bulge. He was awarded the Bronze Star for meritorious service in a combat zone. After World War II, he enrolled at Iowa State University, received his B.S. in Agriculture in 1950 and was inducted into the Phi Kappa Phi honor fraternity. Having taken ROTC at Iowa State for what he thought would be two easy credits, he was called to serve his country once again in the Korean War where he served as a Lieutenant in an artillery unit.

He married Marion Kettler Templeton on April 11, 1958. The couple moved to Grinnell, Iowa, in 1959 where Jack took the position of manager of the DeKalb seed corn production plant. He served in that position for 23 years. He later served as plant manager at DeKalb plants in North Platte, Nebraska, and Sikeston, Missouri, before retiring and moving with Marion back to Grinnell.

In his retirement, Jack volunteered in surgical waiting at Grinnell Regional Medical Center, as an advisor for the State Health Insurance Assistance (SHIP) Program, and at the Grinnell Adult Day Care Center. Jack and Marion received the Governor's Volunteer Award from Governor Terry Branstad and Jack later received the award again from Governor Chet Culver.

Jack enjoyed working in his garden. He liked to attend his class and military reunions and was a faithful member of St. John's Lutheran Church where he served as president of the congregation and in many other leadership positions. After Marion passed, he moved to Seeland Park, where he enjoyed taking his noon meals and doing the "daily jumble" with other residents at the social center and serving on the Seeland Park Advisory Committee.

He is survived by his sons Mark Templeton (Irene) of Tucson, Ariz., and Scott Templeton (Heidi) of Kirksville, Mo., his grandson Nathan Templeton (Chelsea) of Olathe, Kan., his grandson Nicholas Templeton of Cumming, Iowa, granddaughter Callie Templeton of Lee's Summit, Mo., and grandson Carter Templeton of Kirksville, Mo. He was preceded in death by his parents and by his wife Marion in 2008.

GRINNELL RESIDENT

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