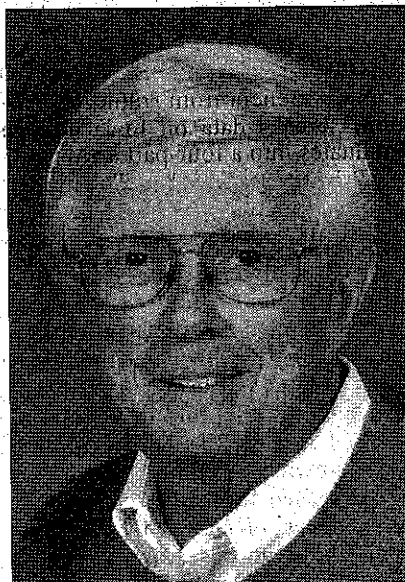


6H-R  
4-29-2019 **Roger Land Pederson**

Roger Land Pederson, 80, of Grinnell, died March 3, 2019, while wintering in Weslaco, Texas.

A celebration of life is scheduled for 1 p.m. May 4, 2019, at the Elks Lodge in Grinnell. A private family Graveside Service and burial is scheduled for May 4, 2019, at Hazelwood Cemetery in Grinnell, Iowa.

Roger was born to Leonard and Augusta Mehlin Pederson April 23, 1938, on the farm north of Grinnell. He was raised on the farm and attended country school and graduated from Grinnell High School in 1956. He attended Iowa State Teachers College,



now known as the University of Northern Iowa, and graduated with his BA degree in 1960. He later achieved his Master's degree in mathematics at Southern Illinois University in 1968. He was a member of the Grinnell Elks Lodge, Grinnell Jaycees, and a member of the Grinnell United Methodist Church.

For many summers he was in charge of the Boys and Girls Little League summer baseball and softball leagues when the fields were located all over town.

On May 14, 1961, he was united in marriage with Mitzi Winkler, at the Clear Lake Methodist Church. The couple raised three children - Kirk, Dana, and Heidi - and were married 58 years. Roger began his teaching career at Grand Mound School District for one year and BGM School District for two years. He later taught at Grinnell-Newburg Junior High School and then Grinnell-Newburg High School. He taught in the Grinnell School District for 38 years and eventually retired after 41 years of teaching. Roger coached ninth-grade boys basketball, boys high school track, and was head coach of the boys and girls cross country team for many years, making it to state numerous times. He will be remembered by the countless students he taught and coached over that immense period of time.

Roger enjoyed his retired days chasing his five grandchildren and one great grandchild to swim meets, cross country, track, softball, and basketball games. Roger and Mitzi enjoyed traveling all over the world, including all but four states, and many countries including China, all of Europe, Peru, Ecuador, South Africa, the Amazon Rain Forest, and Alaska. He also enjoyed his winter months in Weslaco, Texas, where they wintered for 18 years. He has too many activities to mention, except the one he cherished most: dancing with his wife to a country two-step.

He is survived by his wife, Mitzi of Grinnell; son, Dana (LeAnn) Pederson of Grinnell, and daughter-in-law, Kristi Pederson of Kellogg, Iowa; five grandchildren, Samantha and Katherine Pederson of Grinnell, Afton Polk of Des Moines, Iowa, Trenton Ratcliff of Omaha, Nebraska, and Zane Ratcliff of Kellogg; and one great grandchild, Anders Polk of Des Moines. He was preceded in death by his parents; two children, Kirk and Heidi Pederson; brothers, Leonard Jr., in infancy, and Don Pederson; and sister, Norma Pederson Kaisand.

Memorials may be directed to the Grinnell Elks Lodge and sent in care of the Smith Funeral Home.

3-7-2019  
**Roger Land Pederson**  
Roger Land Pederson, 80, died Sunday March 3, 2019, while wintering in Weslaco, Texas.  
A celebration of life will be scheduled at a later date, according to Smith Funeral Home.  
6H-R

already # 24946