

G.H.-R
8-24-2020

Robert A. 'Bob' Johnson

Robert A. "Bob" Johnson, 92, of Grinnell died on August 21, 2020, at UnityPoint Grinnell Regional Medical Center.

Per family request, no services will be held at this time. Burial at Hazelwood Cemetery will be held at a later date.

Bob was born on October 13, 1927, in rural Malcom, the son of Philip Leslie and Rena Mercedes Gatlin Johnson. He was raised in Grinnell and attended Grinnell public schools.

On October 15, 1955, he was united in marriage to Delores Lawthers, in Lancaster, Missouri. A union of 64 years! The couple continued to make their home in Grinnell where they raised their three children.

After Bob's retirement, he and Delores traveled extensively. For sixteen years, they would winter in Arizona and they enjoyed traveling together to Texas and Florida.

Bob was employed at Donaldson Manufacturing Company for nearly 31 years and retired as a supervisor in 1983. He was a member of the Grinnell United Methodist Church.

As an avid outdoorsman, Bob loved hunting, fishing, and trapping; he enjoyed teaching youngsters how to trap and fish. He played fastpitch softball and was a pitcher for several area teams. He was voted the Most Outstanding Pitcher and Most Valuable Player in 1955. He was inducted to the Grinnell Fastpitch Softball Hall of Fame in 1977. Bob was active raising and working with Quarter Horses and served as Ringman at many horseshows throughout Iowa. He loved dancing to country music and with Delores, the couple were "award winning" dancers at several contests.

For many years, Bob and his four brothers would share Sunday morning breakfast at their parent's home. Later, they continued this tradition with an annual Christmas family breakfast at Westside Diner in Grinnell. The event draws dozens of Johnson family members from across the country. His love for family was very important to him and this love was very evident.

Bob is survived by his wife, Delores of Grinnell; three children, Danny (Mary) Johnson of Hallsville, Missouri, Gary (Nancy) Johnson of Rock Springs, Wyoming, and Jolene (Steve) Hansen of Rochester, Minnesota; two grandchildren, Erin Hite of Tucson, Arizona, and Mark Johnson of Rock Springs; two great-grandchildren, Raymond and Kalen Johnson of Tucson; and one brother, Neil (Pat) Johnson of Grinnell. He was preceded in death by his parents, both in 1972; and three brothers; Merton (1977), Gene (2001), and Leslie (2016).

