

Robert K. Rubel

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1-27-2020

Robert Rubel, age 92, of Grinnell, died on Thursday, January 23, 2020, at UnityPoint Iowa Methodist Medical Center in Des Moines.

A graveside service with military honors was held at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, January 25, at Friends Cemetery in New Sharon. A visitation was held from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. on Saturday at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell.

Memorials may be designated to The Danish Immigration Museum and mailed in care of the Smith Funeral Home, PO Box 368, Grinnell, Iowa 50112. Memories and condolences may be shared with his family online at www.smithfh.com.

Robert Kenneth Rubel was born the son of Walter Johannes Rubel and Clara Marie (Bonnesen) Rubel on May 17, 1927, in Audubon, Iowa. He was raised in Audubon and graduated from Audubon High School in 1945.

Robert served in the United States Navy as a Fireman First Class and was stationed in Japan during World War II. He was honorably discharged in 1946 and returned to Iowa. He began his longtime career as an engineer at Northwestern Bell, where he met the love of his life, JoAnn Thelma Randels. They were united in marriage on June 29, 1958, at the Trinity Lutheran Church in Des Moines, Iowa. To this union they were blessed with four children: Sharon, Douglas, Barbara and Beverly.

Robert loved flying his Piper airplane and gliders. When it's a good day for gliders, it was a good day for Bob Rubel. His adventures also took him around the world with his wife and family. His other passions were woodworking to create beautiful furniture, hunting and fishing. He dearly loved his family and always made sure they were doing well. He will be remembered for being generous, courageous, and a loving family man.

Robert is survived by his children, Sharon Rubel of Grinnell, Douglas Rubel of San Antonio, Texas, Barbara (Doug) Ames of Rocheport, Missouri, and Beverly (Robert) King of Crestview, Florida; seven grandchildren, Alicia Corron Andrews, Michael Corron, Andrew (Veronica), Erin, and Megan Johnson; Nickolas (Alicia) Samourian, and Josh Ames; three great grandchildren, Joan and Leda Andrews, and Gianna Johnson; and his sister, Colleen Hammond of Sturgis, South Dakota. He was preceded in death by his parents; wife, JoAnn of 53 years; and siblings, Donald, LaVonne and Jack.

