Samuel Weir Jr.



Samuel Weir Jr., 75, of Gilman died Thursday, Jan. 25, 2007, at his home while in care of Grinnell Regional Hospice.

A funeral service and celebration of his life was held Monday, Jan. 29, at Mitchell Family Funeral Home in Marshalltown with Susan Leatham, chaplain of Grinnell Regional Hospice, officiating. Interment in Rose Hill Memorial Gardens in Marshalltown followed with full military honors by the U.S. Marine Corps Honor Squad and hospitality following at the funeral home. Condolences may be offered at www.mitchellfh.com. Memorials may be made to Grinnell Regional Hospice.

He was born April 3, 1931, in Marshalltown, the son of Samuel Sr. and Tena Weir. He grew up helping his father on an acreage that still is in his family. He began farming with five mules on the farm that has been in his family since 1936. He attended country school and graduated from Gilman High School in 1950. He was a member of the United States Marine Corps from 1951 until 1954, serving on active duty in the Korean War and was the recipient of several medals including the Purple Heart.

He was united in marriage in 1951 with Marilee VandeKamp. He farmed and raised cattle and with his sons and grandsons showed many champion Steers of Merit at the Iowa State Fair. He also drove a school bus for 31 years, and with his wife raised miniature purebred black Schnauzers for 15 years. He also is remembered for his sense of humor.

He is survived by his wife of 54 years, Marilee, two sons Doug and Keith, three grandchildren and four great grandchildren.