

Odell Fairchild

Odell Fairchild, 82, of Grinnell died Sunday, April 22, 2007, at University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics in Iowa City.

A funeral service was held Wednesday, April 25, at Smith Funeral Home with George Edgerly, pastor, officiating. Casket bearers were his grandchildren, Andrew Henderson, Patrick Henderson, Charity Kirsch, Zachery Kirsch, Jody VanDeKrol and Heather Wolf. Burial was in Hazelwood Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to the Odell Fairchild Memorial Fund and sent to Smith Funeral Home. Online condolences may be submitted to the family on the Smith Funeral Home website, www.smithfh.com.

He was born April 11, 1925, in Parmleysville, Ky., the son of General Avington and Esther Emerine Fairchild and he was raised and educated in that community. He was united in marriage with Edith Lucille Criswell on Sept. 14, 1951, in New Castle, Ind. To this union were born four children, Imegene, Ronnie, Ann and Randy. They moved to New Castle, Ind, and then to Grinnell in 1953.

He was employed in various occupations from farming to railroad maintenance, and worked at Holland Plastics throughout his life. He was a handyman who could fix anything from an old watch to a lawn mower. He enjoyed the outdoors where he could hunt and garden; playing musical instruments including the fiddle, guitar, accordion and harmonica, and listening to his favorite music, old country western and bluegrass.

He is survived by his son Ronnie of Baxter; his daughter, Anne Bell of Grinnell; six grandchildren; six great grandchildren; his sister, Nancy Gautier of Winston-Salem, N.C., and his brother, Tim Fairchild, also of Winston-Salem. He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife Lucille in 1988; his daughter Imegene Fairchild; his son Randy Fairchild; one grandson and his brothers, Hermon, Earl and Henry Fairchild.

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