Roger A. Burns



Roger A. Burns, 73, of Grinnell died Friday, Feb. 13, 2009, at Grinnell Regional Medical Centér.

A funeral service was held Tuesday, Feb. 17, at Smith Funeral Home with the Rev. Susan Sanning officiating. Military rites were provided by the Grinnell Veterans Ceremonial Unit. Interment will be at a later date at Prairie View Cemetery in Gilman,

Memorials may be made to the Roger A. Burns Memorial Fund, P.O. Box 368, Grinnell, IA 50112. Condolences to the family may be submitted on-line at www.smithfh.com.

He was born, the son of Layton and Dora Paul Burns, on Aug. 10, 1935, in Gilman. He was raised in Gilman and Laurel and graduated from Laurel High School with the class of 1953. He then attended Upper Iowa University in Fayette after which he served his country as a Specialist 3rd Class in the United States Army, Following his military service, he farmed with his father near Gilman. He was united in marriage with Janet Schaper on March 30, 1958, at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Marshalltown. The couple resided in Laurel most of their lives and moved to Grinnell in 1999 shortly after Roger retired from farming.

He was a member of the Gilman United Methodist Church; a 50-year member of the Grinnell Eagles Club which he served as president from 1996-1997 and as secretary-treasurer for several years, and was a 50-year member of the Masonic Lodge in

Grinnell.

He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Janet Burns of Grinnell; his sons, Scot Burns of Grinhelland Chris Burns of Brooklyn; seven grandchildren; two great grandchildren and his sister, Linda Wilkening of Perry. He was preceded in death by his parents and his brothers, Richard in infancy, and Ronald.

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A funeral service will be held Tuesday, Feb. 17, at 10:30 a.m. at Smith Funeral Home with interment at a later date at Prairie View Cemetery in Gilman. Friends may call at the funeral home from 2 to 8 p.m. Monday with family members present from 5 to 8 p.m.

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