

Obituary

Dale Earnhart, 56, Searsboro

Dale N. Earnhart, 56, of Searsboro died February 3, 2009, at Iowa Methodist Medical Center in Des Moines.

Funeral services were held at 11 a.m. Saturday, February 7, at the Grinnell United Methodist Church with the Rev. Len Eberhart pastor of the church and **D. Earnhart**

Pastor Richard Larson, True Life Ministries in Des Moines, officiating. Pallbearers will be Brenden and Levi Thompson, Charissa, Devon, and Brianna Galvan, Justin and Kevin Watkins, Joseph, Danielle, Cody, and Blake Earnhart, Austin Parrott, Cynthia Hill, and Lane Milner. Honorary bearers will be Curt Phipps, Bob Hunter, Grant Rooda, Jerry Tremmel, Bob Grife, and Ryan Duncan.

Memorial contributions may be directed to the Dale N. Earnhart

Memorial Fund.

Dale was born December 6, 1952, in Washington, Missouri, the son of William Clarence and Leona Anna Mayer Earnhart. He lived in Union, Missouri and moved with his family to Grinnell in 1961. He was a 1970 graduate of Grinnell High School and Iowa Valley Community College in 1976.

On June 5, 1971, Dale was married to Betty J. Sears, at the Grinnell United Methodist Church. The couple lived in Searsboro for a few years and then moved to Grinnell in 1973. They returned to Searsboro to make their home in 1982. He was a welder, retail manager, human service worker, and a fireman and emergency medical technician. He was employed at Maytag Company, Donaldson Company, MICA, McNally's Super Value, and Grinnell Lumber Company. He was a member of the Poweshiek County Emergency Management, Poweshiek County Emergency Medical Association, Iowa Firemen's Association, and

the Poweshiek County Firemen's Association. He was mayor of Searsboro for several years.

Dale loved his family deeply. He was „a grandfather to several, but a grandpa to hundreds. He never knew a stranger and his friends were all considered family. He enjoyed barbecuing, bon-fires, camping, the outdoors, and photography. He also enjoyed parades where he could be seen driving the fire truck with his grandchildren riding on top.

Survivors include his wife Betty of Searsboro; three children, Cammie (Jeff Milner) Thompson of Grinnell, Tonja (Chris) Nichols of Montrose, Iowa, and Shane (Sammi Beason) of Grinnell; a daughter-in-law, Anna Earnhart of Searsboro; one sister, Donna (Morris) Ridgeway of San Jose, California; one brother, Dean Earnhart of Montezuma; and 17 grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents.



HR Feb 5, 2009

Dale Earnhart

Dale N. Earnhart, 56, of Searsboro died Tuesday, Feb. 3, 2009, at Iowa Methodist Medical Center in Des Moines.

A funeral service will be held Saturday, Feb. 7, at the United Methodist Church in Grinnell. Visitation will be held Friday from 12 noon to 8 p.m. at Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell with family members present from 4 to 7 p.m. Memorials may be made to the Dale Earnhart Memorial Fund.

PCCR Feb 11, 2009

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