Donald R. Souter, 94

Donald R. Souter, 94, of Iowa City and formerly of Grinnell, died Aug. 3, 2009, at Mercy Hospital in Iowa City.

Funeral services were held at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, Aug. 8, at the United Church of Christ — Congregational in Grinnell with the Rev. Susan K. Weier officiating. Eulogist was John Pfitsch. Organist was Pat Saxton and vocalist was Milton Severe. Burial was in Hazelwood Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be directed to the United Church of Christ – Congregational in Grinnell.

Don was born Jan. 9, 1915, in Pleasant Township, Poweshiek County, the son of Robert Henry and Olivia Latcham Souter. He was a 1933 graduate of Montezuma High School where he excelled in sports. After his education, he was employed at Morrison & Schultz Glove Company, and later, Swifts & Company.

On July 26, 1937, he was united in marriage to Cathryn L. Gwin, in Ewart. The couple lived in Grinnell and he was employed for several years with the Grinnell Glove Factory where he cut the first DeLong Jackets for Chuck DeLong. He then began working for Poweshiek County Breeders, which later became Midwest Breeders Co-op, for 31 years, and retired Feb. 1, 1977. He drove an estimated 2,250,000 miles with this job and had won many service awards for excellence.

Don was a member of the United Church of Christ – Congregational in Grinnell, where he was a past president and secretary/treasurer of the Men's Club and served on the Lay Life and Lay Board. He was a past president and treasurer of the Grinnell Inter-City Bowling League; a charter member of the Grinnell Fast Pitch Softball Association; a coach for 10 years of the Cardinals Babe Ruth Baseball team; and was later inducted in the Grinnell Softball Hall of Fame. He was an avid outdoorsman and competitive in all sports. He enjoyed fishing and hunting, and hosting his annual pheasant hunting trip with family and friends.

Survivors include three children, Sandra Sue (Gerry) Ross of Marion, Va., Linda L. (Lee) Shope of Iowa City, and Roger D. (Karen) Souter of Iowa City; five grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Cathryn; four brothers, Clifford, Carl, Leonard, and Robert; and one sister in infancy. PCCF Aug 12, 2009