

Russell Eugene Douglass

Gene Douglass, 74, of Montezuma died Jan. 31, 2000 at Iowa Methodist Medical Center in Des Moines.

His funeral was Feb. 4 at Watts Funeral Home in Montezuma with Cletus Miller of West Liberty Church of Christ officiating.

Darrell Brand, soloist, sang "You'll Never Walk Alone" and "How Great Thou Art." He was accompanied on the organ by Tom Sandholm.

Casket bearers were Larry Steele, Glen Beatty, Dean McWilliams, Dick Rabenold, Dick Arendt and Sam Mummey. Military graveside rites were performed by members of Blakley-Stevens Legion Post No. 169.

Mr. Douglass was buried in Jackson Township Cemetery in Montezuma.

Russell Eugene Douglass was born Nov. 4, 1925 south of Montezuma in Browntown, the son of Dale A. and Opal Beatty Douglass.

He attended Montezuma schools, leaving in his junior year of high school to join the Marines. Most of his military service was in the South Pacific during World War II. He was called back to service as a Marine Reserve for a year during the Korean Conflict.

On Feb. 15, 1946, he married Lois

Miller in Montezuma. They would have celebrated their 54th anniversary this month.

Mr. Douglass' first job after the military was helping Cecil Flack open and operate a new Goodyear store. He then spent several years as a mechanic for Buck Gilbert and Vannoy Chevrolet. In 1961, he bought and operated the Standard Oil station for six years. In 1967, he was named superintendent of Montezuma's new natural gas system and worked there 21 1/2 years until he retired.

In past years, Mr. Douglass was an avid golfer, a member of the Montezuma Fire Department, Lions Club and Veterans of Foreign Wars. He also had an extensive coin collection, a stamp collection and liked to work crossword puzzles.

He was preceded in death by his parents, an infant son, Kenneth Dean and a brother, Phillip.

Mr. Douglass is survived by his wife, Lois; two sons, Stephen and David, both of Atlanta, Ga.; two brothers, Bob Douglass of Eagleville, Tenn. and Bill Douglass of Montezuma; a sister, Phyllis Hopkins of Montezuma; other relatives and many friends.

Memorials may be made to the Montezuma Volunteer Fire Department.

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Feb. 16, 2000