

Donald C. Ellis

Donald C. Ellis, 72, of Grinnell died of cancer Wednesday, Jan. 20, at Iowa Methodist Medical Center in Des Moines.

Funeral services were conducted Monday morning at the Smith Funeral Home, with the Rev. John Epperson, pastor of the Grinnell Christian Church, officiating. Organist was Margaret Wheeler, and casket bearers were Larry Ellis, Paul S. McDonald, Paul D. McDonald, Don Ellis Sr., Don Ellis Jr., Stacy Lynn Ellis, Dana Ellis and Chris Goodrich.

Military honors were conducted by members of the Grinnell Veterans Ceremonial Unit, with burial in Hazelwood Cemetery.

He was born Aug. 1, 1926, in Cicero, Ill., to Percy and Jeanette Coonrod Ellis. The family moved to Grinnell in the late 1930s.

During World War II, Mr. Ellis served with the U.S. Navy in the Pacific Theater aboard the USS Mississippi, serving in seven major battles. Following the war he returned to Grinnell and worked as a truck driver for E. Kirkpatrick Company in Illinois. He later served as a sergeant in the Grinnell Police Department and was superintendent of the Grinnell Parks Department. He retired in 1988.

Mr. Ellis was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the American Legion.

Surviving are one daughter, Penny McDonald of Grinnell; one son, Donald D. of Grinnell; three grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and one brother, Larry of Grinnell.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Vivian, and his parents.

Memorials may be directed to the tree-planting program at Hazelwood Cemetery or to the Grinnell Volunteer Fire Department.

H-R Jan. 28, 1999