Melvin H. Ferneau

MR May 12, 2000

Melvin H. Ferneau, 70, of Montezuma died May 10, 2000 at Grinnell Regional Medical Center.

A memorial service was Monday, May 15 at Watts Funeral Home in Montezuma. The Rev. H. Burr Bryant of United Methodist Church in Montezuma officiated.

Soloist Darrell Brand sang "Amazing Grace." Kathleen Ramsey accompanied him on the organ.

Mr. Ferneau was born Aug. 21, 1929 in Iowa City, the son of Harlan and Tassie (Johnston) Ferneau He graduated from Montezuma High School in 1947. On Dec. 20, 1947 he married Violet McIlrath in Brooklyn. The couple had four sons.

A lifelong Montezuma resident, Mr. Ferneau delivered freight for Ross Brooks, worked for Bowers Construction and was one of the original eight who began work with Glenn and Hazel Sigafoose. He was clerk at the

Montezuma Post Office for 27 years before retiring in 1976. For the past 20 years, Mr. and Mrs. Ferneau wintered in Arizona.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a brother, Marvin Ferneau.

He is survived by his wife, Violet of Montezuma; four sons and their families, Duane Ferneau of Kingman, Ariz. and his children, Benjamin and Katherine; Donald and Sandi Ferneau of Humboldt and their children, Brent and Michelle Torkelson and her husband. Mike; Darrell and Darcy Ferneau of Okeechobee, Fla. and their children, Dayla and Dylan and Dallas and Jennifer Ferneau of Huntsville, Ala. and their children, Christa and Connor; his mother-in-law, Blanche McIlrath of Mesa, Ariz.; other relatives and may friends.

Memorials may be made to the American Diabetes Association.