Pat Gallagher memorial set

J.R. (Pat) Gallagher, 70, of West Branch, a former staffer of The Grinnell Herald-Register and publisher of the Belmond Independent, died of a heart attack Monday, Oct. 25 en route to a hospital in Iowa City.

The body was cremated. A memorial service is scheduled for 1:30 p.m. Saturday at the United Church of Christ in Belmond.

The son of Dr. O.H. and May Schmitz Gallagher, he was born July 12, 1912, in Grinnell. He attended schools here and received his B.A. degree from Grinnell College in 1934 and his M.A. in journalism from Columbia University.

During World War II he served as lieutenant in the U.S. Navy in the South Pacific. Following the war, he worked for The Herald-Register, as well as the Des Moines Register and dailies in Oskaloosa and New Jersey He became co-partner and editor-publisher, of the Belmond newspaper.

Mr. Gallagher, sold his interest in the newspaper in 1968, moved to West Branch and accepted the position of director of communications of the Iowa Regional Medical Program. He was also a staff member at the University of Iowa. He retired in 1977.

During his career in journalism, he won several awards from the Iowa Press Association. During the observance of Columbia's 50th anniversary, he was selected to write the section on rural journalism for the anniversary publication.

Mr. Gallagher was married to Betty June Hays of Grinnell in 1940.

She survives, as do four children, Nancy O'Hara of Denver, Colo., Dennis of Wymore, Neb., Kevin of Gardiner, Mont., and Steven of North Liberty; three grand-daughters; and two sisters, Wilma Segrest of Orlando, Fla., and Peggy Cole of Houston, Texas.

Memorials in Mr. Gallagher's name may be made to the University of Iowa Athletic Department building fund or to the Iowa Heart Association.