

Otto Francis Graves

A funeral service was held Thursday afternoon, Jan. 6, at Smith Funeral Home in Victor for Otto Francis Graves, 75, of Hartwick, who died Jan. 3, 2000, at his home.

The Rev. A.J. Wollenburg, pastor of the First Lutheran Church of Belle Plaine officiated, and organist Verabeth Bricker supplied the selections, "Amazing Grace" and "Battle Hymn of the Republic." Private burial of his cremated remains will be held at a later date.

Otto was born on Jan. 18, 1924, in Shermanville, Ill., to Otto Henry and Louise Isabell Storey Graves. He attended rural schools near his home. During World War II, he served with the United States Navy.

On Jan. 14, 1946, he was married to Marian "Pat" Kerby at Momence, Ill. The couple lived in Minnesota for a few years and moved to Dubuque, where he worked for the Ruan Trucking Company.

In 1951, Otto and Pat moved to Fox Lake, Ill., and he was employed as a machinist and in repair for the Johnson Outboard Motor Company. He retired following 31 years of service to Johnson's and moved to Hartwick in 1990.

He was a member of the Belle Plaine American Legion and the Fox Lake Lions Club.

Otto was preceded in death by his parents and one brother, Billie Graves.

Survivors include his wife, Pat; his children and their spouses, Judy and Roy A. Andersen of McHenry, Ill., Michael and Spring Graves of Spring Grove, Ill., and Jerry and Diana Graves of Victor; five grandchildren, Roy A. Andersen Jr. and his wife, Susan, Eric Andersen, Brandy and Michelle Graves, and Christina Graves; two great-grandchildren, Mikayla and Logan Andersen; two brothers, Paul Graves of Naples, N.C., and Rae Graves of Momence, Ill., and one sister, Effie Graves, of Kankakee, Ill.

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