Earl E. Lemke

Funeral services were held Monday morning, July 6, at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell for Earl E. Lemke, 79, of Grinnell, who died Thursday, July 2, 1998, of cancer, at Iowa Methodist Medical Center in Des Moines.

The Rev. John Epperson, pastor of the Grinnell Christian Church, officiated. Music was provided by Jolene Jones, organist, and Rich and Carolyn Milligan, vocalists.

Casket bearers were John Breeden, John Freeborn, Bill and Larry Lemke, Dan Peters, and Brian and Bruce Tokle. Honorary bearers were Ron Curry, Merle Doty, Henry and Tom Harris, Jim McIlrath, Terry Lowry, Melvin Sieck and Ray Tokle. Burial was in the Pleasant Township Cemetery at Ewart.

Earl E. Lemke was born June 29, 1919, at Elk River, Minn., to Herman and Edith McMeekin Lemke. The family moved to Kellogg and later to Grinnell, where he attended school. During World War II he served with the United States Army in the Medical Corp.

On Sept. 2, 1945, he was married to Mary Ellen Sutton at Montezuma. The couple farmed on various farms in Poweshiek County. In 1970, they moved to Grinnell and he worked as a truck driver.

He was a member of the Grinnell Christian Church.

He was preceded in death by his parents, and his son, Charles Edward Lemke.

Survivors include his wife, Mary E. Lemke of Grinnell; four daughters, Joyce Ann Lemke of Canton, Ohio, Judy Marie Sayre of Keosauqua, Donna Jean Deppe of Brooklyn, and Jane Elaine Lemke of Grinnell; two grandchildren; two sisters, Dorothy Haines and Hazel Darnell, both of Grinnell; and seven brothers, Donald of Searsboro, Walter of Malcom, Leonard and Jim, both of Grinnell, Ralph of Oskaloosa, Marvin of Rolla, Mo., and Calvin of Winchester, Va.

Memorials may be directed to CIRSI Group Home at Marshalltown.