

Joe Nikkel

Joe Nikkel, 77, of Sully died Sunday, May 16, at Pella Regional Health Center in Pella.

Funeral services were conducted Thursday at the Sully Christian Reformed Church, with the Revs. Lawrence Howerzyl, Marvin Miller and Roger Punt officiating. Organist was Betty Nikkel, and vocalists were Curtis Braaksma and Sammy Lee Schmidt. Casket bearers were his nephews, Ervin, Randy, Ronald, Larry and Rick Nikkel and Dale Roozeboom. Honorary bearers were Arnold Ratcliff and fellow members of the Lynnville Promise Keepers. Burial was in Sully Cemetery, with the Van Dyk-Duven Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

Military rites were conducted by Van Veen-Van Hemert American Legion Post No. 89 of Pella.

He was the son of Johannes and Lizzie Baarda Nikkel and was born April 22, 1922, near Lynnville. He attended Highland Country Grade School.

He was inducted into the U.S. Army in December 1942.

On June 18, 1943, he was married to Mary Cora Jansen in Sully. Mr. Nikkel served in the Philippines on a supply cargo plane. He was discharged from the service in January 1946.

The couple then began farming south of Lynnville. In 1959 they moved to Sully where Mr. Nikkel owned and operated a Phillips 66 station. They became custodians at Lynnville-Sully High School in 1966.

He began driving for Lynnville Transport in 1978 and continued in that position until his retirement in 1988.

Mrs. Nikkel died in September 1996. Mr. Nikkel was married to Donna M. Blakley Dec. 31, 1996.

He was a member of the Sully Christian Reformed Church and had been attending the Lynnville Friends Church.

He is survived by his second wife; four children, Jerry of Marshalltown, Celia Robertson of Newton, Allen of Urbandale and Debora Miller of Galesburg; nine grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; two stepdaughters, Sharon Decker of Oskaloosa and Elaine Allman of Ottumwa; six step-grandchildren; six step-great-grandchildren; two brothers, Melvin of Sully and Norma of Searsboro; and one sister, Matilda Roozeboom of Oskaloosa.

He was preceded in death by his first wife; his parents; one great-granddaughter;; two sisters, Matilda and Louise Nikkel; and two brothers, Bernie and Clair.

H-R May 24, 1999