Paul Phillips, GMS teacher and coach, dies Thursday



Paul Phillips

Paul I. Phillips, a veteran coach and teacher in the Grinnell-Newburg school system, died of a heart attack Thursday evening during a sports banquet at Grinnell High School.

Mr. Phillips collapsed shortly after speaking to athletes, their parents and others attending the event. Although CPR was administered quickly, he was pronounced dead on arrival at Grinnell General Hospital.

Funeral services were conducted at 2:30 p.m. Monday in the Grinnell Middle School gymnasium, with the Rev. John Epperson, pastor of the Grinnell Christian Church, officiating. Clusses were dismissed for the funeral. Music was by Greater Love and the Grinnell Middle School Band.

Pallbearers were David Barger, Sam Barnes, Bob Dimit, Jerry Doonan, Marv Kramer, Roger Pederson, Dick Purcell and Jim Stayner. Honorary bearers were Jack Douglas, Mike Fitzgerald, Jim Long, Ted Mueller, Kristin Nass, Geoffrey Peak, Dwight Pease, Leroy Schneider and

Lydia Reida.

<u>Burial was in Hazelwood</u>
Cemetery.

A memorial fund has been established in Mr. Phillips' name to benefit Grinnell Middle School. Donations may be sent in care of the Smith Funeral Home, where friends may call for additional information.

He was the son of Donald and Margaret Rice Phillips and was born Sept. 26, 1936, in Des Moines. He moved with his family to Grinnell where he attended school, graduating from Grinnell High School in 1955. He was a graduate of Iowa Wesleyan College and had taught and coached in the Grinnell schools for the past 26 years. He was former director of athletics. Mr. Phillips had recently concluded a season as assistant varsity boy's basketball coach.

He was the owner and operator of Phillips Construction Co. in Grinnell. He was a member of the Hermon Masonic Lodge and the Iowa State Education Association.

Surviving are his wife, Shirley; one son, Fred Phillips of Elkhart, Ind.; three daughters, Kelly Wiley of Pella and Kimberly and Kathy, both of the family home; and one sister, Donna Keup of Danville, Ill. He was preceded in death by his parents.