

Merle Henry Pope

A private family burial service was held at 11 a.m., Saturday, Sept. 28, at Calvary Cemetery at Victor, Iowa, for Merle Pope, 81, of Victor. The Rev. Maynard Brothersen of Davenport and the Rev. Richard Okumu of St. Bridget's Catholic Church, Victor, officiated. Casketbearers were his 16 grandchildren. Smith Funeral Home, Victor, was in charge of arrangements.

He died Wednesday, Sept. 25, 1996, at St. Francis Manor in Grinnell.

Merle Henry Pope was born Aug. 29, 1915, at Millersburg, to Martin and Frances Ellen Erue Pope. He was raised at Millersburg and graduated with the class of 1934 from Millersburg High School.

On Jan. 7, 1941, he was married to Margaret McGarry at Victor. The couple farmed near Victor and in 1954, he was employed as Public Works Director for the City of Victor.

Merle was a member of the Belle Plaine Country Club and he was formerly a member of the Victor Fire Department and the Iowa Police Association. He was involved in baseball leagues at Millersburg and Victor and most recently, he enjoyed bowling and golf.

He is survived by his wife, Margaret; his four daughters and their spouses, Jean and John Gryp of Victor, Joan and Gary Schafbuch of Victor, Mary Ellen and Raymond Kriegel of Chelsea and Marcia and Jim Shults of Grinnell; 16 grandchildren; 27 great-grandchildren; and his brother, Orville Pope of Cedar Rapids.

He was preceded in death by six brothers, Virgil, Milo, Menlo, Lloyd, Robert and an infant brother, as well as one sister, Esther.