

Brooklyn Paper
September 10, 1986

Obituaries

GARY KENNETH RATHJEN

Gary was born on Nov. 26, 1931 at the home of his parents Carl and Helen (Fitzgerald) Rathjen in Sumner Township, Iowa County, Iowa. He was baptized at Trinity United Church of Christ rural Marengo, and later was confirmed at this same church. While a member of Trinity, he served as a lay minister, was Sunday school superintendent, and Sunday School teacher, also an elder and was a member of the church choir.

Since January, 1974, Gary has been a member of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Williamsburg, where he had been a member of the church choir.

Gary attended Sumner Township #4 rural school through eighth grade and in 1949 graduated from Marengo High School. On Dec. 9, 1952 he enlisted in the U.S. Army and served in Korea until his discharge on Oct. 15, 1954. He returned to the Sumner Township area and farmed until moving to Williamsburg in 1970. For a time Gary was employed by Systems Unlimited in Williamsburg, and most recently has been employed by Care at Home, Inc., of Cedar Rapids.

Gary was married to Rita Kay Sheda, on March 12, 1955. They were later divorced.

He died Tuesday, Sept. 2, 1986 at the home of his brother in Cedar Rapids.

He is survived by: son Steven and his wife Darlene of Austin, Texas; two daughters: Sharon Marie (Mrs. Kenneth Landuyt of Williamsburg, and Susan Rathjen of Fort Dodge; his twin brother Glen of Williamsburg and his brother Ron of Cedar Rapids; his parents Carl and Helen Rathjen and four grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by an infant sister, Darlene Ann.

A family prayer service was held at 11 a.m. Friday at the Uhlmann Funeral Home in Williamsburg. Rev. Glenn Hunt, pastor of Eden United Church of Christ in Cedar Rapids, officiated.

Funeral services were Friday at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Williamsburg. Burial was in Genoa Bluff Cemetery, Sumner Township, Iowa county, with military graveside rites by Williamsburg Veterans of Foreign Wars and American Legion.

Rev. Phill E. Andreassen was officiating clergyman. The organist was Connie Huedepohl with JoAnn Dohermann as soloist. Caring for flowers were Jim and Diann Gowin.

Honorary casket bearers were Richard and Shirley Dieterich and August and Whirley Steffen with Mark Rathjen, Roger Rathjen, David Rathjen, Bill Danskin, Charles Rathjen and David O. Jones as casketbearers.