James Severe

James L. Severe, 65, of 1202 Hamilton Ave., Grinnell, died of a heart ailment Sunday, July 10, at Mercy Hospital Medical Center in Des Moines.

Funeral services will be conducted at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday at the First Baptist Church of Grinnell, with burial in Hazelwood Cemetery.

Mr. Severe is survived by his wife, Virginia; one daughter, Rebecca Wallace of Grinnell; two sons, Gary of Latah, Wash., and Milton of Grinnell; one sister, Eleanor Kugel of Libertyville, Ill.; and six grandchildren.

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James L. Severe, 65, of Grinnell died Sunday, July 10, at Mercy Hospital Medical Center in Des Moines.

Funeral services were conducted Wednesday at the Grinnell First Baptist Church, with the Revs. John Property of the First Baptist Church and Richard Graves of St. Paul's Episcopal Church officiating. Organist was Kathleen Heffner, and pallbearers were Darwin Busch, Jim Dvorak, Steve Kugel, Dale Seeck, Bill Zeller and Don Zeller.

Burial was in Hazelwood Cemetery, with the Smith Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

The son of Edward Milton and Eva Ioa Coon Severe, he was born May 24, 1929, in Brooklyn. He graduated as valedictorian of his class in 1947. Following his graduation he was employed by the Poweshiek County Bank in Brooklyn.

He was married to Virginia Tuggle June 11, 1950, in Grinnell. Mr. Severe worked as an accountant for Grinnell State Bank and, later, Lang's Dairy. In 1966 he began his career as an accountant with Anderson-Erickson Dairy in Des Moines. He retired in 1992.

He was a member of the First Baptist Church where he served as church organist and a Sunday school teacher. He had held several positions in the church.

Surviving are his wife; his children, Rebecca Wallace of Grinnell, Gary of Latah, Wash., and Milton of Grinnell; one sister, Eleanor Kugel of Libertyville, Ill.; and six grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents and four sisters, Irene Busch, Mary Dvorak, Mildred Zeller and Jennie Severe.