

Larry Sparks

Larry Dean Sparks, 53, of 410 Washington Ave. died of heart failure Friday, May 24, at his home.

A celebration of his life was held Tuesday at Pence Funeral Home in Newton, with the Rev. Gene Bryant, pastor of the First Christian Church of Newton, officiating. Burial was at Memorial Park Cemetery, Newton.

The son of Doyal S. and Alfredda Bettis Sparks, he was born March 18, 1949, in Des Moines. He attended high school in Montezuma.

Mr. Sparks was a truck driver for area companies and had lived in Grinnell for the past six years. He previously lived in the Montezuma and Newton areas.

He was a veteran of the Vietnam era, serving in the U.S. Air Force.

He was married to Judy A. Blackwood Aug. 22, 1986, in Reno, Nev. She and a daughter, Melissa Sparks-Mather of Portland, Ore., survive.

He was preceded in death by his parents; one brother, Richard; and one sister, Patricia Sonquist.

Memorial contributions may be made in his name.