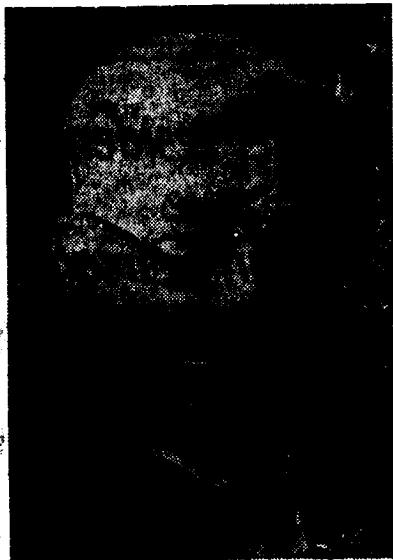


Lester Ashing



Lester F. Ashing, 94, of Gilman died of multiple system failure Thursday, Dec. 18, 2003, at St. Francis Manor.

A funeral service was held Monday, Dec. 22, at Smith Funeral Home with the Rev. David Raymond and Bill Laumette-Code officiating. Pianist was Mickey Pickens. Casket bearers were Robert and Steven Ashing, Henry Howanga, Mark Kingery, Roger Snyder and Bruce Patterson. Burial was in Bethel Cemetery near Lynnville. Memorials in his name may be sent to Smith Funeral Home, PO Box 368, Grinnell IA 50112.

He was born March 10, 1909, in Kimball, S.D., to Ira and Annie Tiam Ashing. The family moved to the Grinnell area where he was raised and attended rural school. He was married in March 17, 1932, to Ellen I. Taylor in Newton. The couple operated a grain and livestock farm near Grinnell. In 1957, they moved to Gilman where he operated the Gilman Blacksmith Shop until his retirement in the late 1980s.

He was a chief of the Gilman Volunteer Fire Department, a member of the Gilman City Council, the Gilman Lions Club, the Gilman Senior Citizens, the Marshall County Peace Officers' Association, and the Iowa Blacksmith Welders' Association. He also was a member of the Gilman Community United Church of Christ.

He is survived by two sons Bill Ashing of Gilman and Larry Ashing of Grinnell, seven grandchildren, three great grandchildren and one sister Iris Bagley of Los Gatos, Calif.

H-R - DEC. 29, 2003