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Harrison G. Dawes

Harrison Griffin Dawes, 94, of Grinnell, formerly of Winterset and West Lake Okoboji, died Tuesday, Jan. 25, at St. Francis Manor.

A funeral service was held Thursday, Jan. 27, at Grinnell United Methodist Church with the Rev. Gordon Packard, retired, and Deacon Diane Eberhart, associate pastor, officiating. Organist was Kathleen Heffner. Pallbearers were Michael Patrick, Rebecca Dawes, Derek Lewis, Lynn Kuchemann, Kevin Costigan, Michele Costigan and Greg Dawes. Burial will be Friday, Jan. 28, at Spirit Lake Memorial Gardens Cemetery in Spirit Lake. Memorials may be made to the Okoboji United Methodist Campground.

The son of Richard and Clara Griffin Dawes, he was born Dec. 9, 1910, in Kirkland, N. Y. He graduated from Clinton (N.Y.) High School in 1930, then attended Hamilton College and Taylor University before transferring in 1935 to Morningside College in Sioux City from which he graduated in 1937. He graduated from Garrett Theological Seminary in Evanston, Ill., in 1943, serving Methodist churches in Maple Park and Cortland, Ill., during his tenure there.

He was united in marriage with Donnis V. Horine on Feb. 18, 1933, in Point Isabelle, Ind. He served the Superior-Montgomery Methodist Churches in Iowa in 1934-35. While attending Morningside College, he served St. James Methodist Church in Sioux City. Following his graduation from seminary, he served Methodist Churches in Quimby-Good Hope for three years, Sutherland in 1943, Sutherland-Moneta from 1945 to 1947; Eagle Grove from 1947 to 1954, Estherville from 1954 to 1957, as district superintendent of the Spencer District of the United Methodist Church from 1957 to 1962, Clinton First United Methodist Church from 1962 to 1967 and Storm Lake from 1967 to 1976, after which he retired. He later served the Rossie United Church of Christ from 1976 to 1996.

The Dawes built a retirement home on West Lake Okoboji in 1976. He enjoyed gardening, fishing, reading, wordworking and landscaping. He was very involved in the Okoboji United Methodist Campsite, often serving as dean, and had an impact on many young people who attended the camps including his two sons who pursued vocations in the ministry.

He is survived by his wife Donnis of Winterset; two sons Gilbert of St. Charles and Delbert of Grinnell; seven grandchildren, 20 great grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.