

Norman R. Mason, 87



Norman Robert Mason, 87, of New Sharon, died Tuesday, Sept. 28, at Grinnell Regional Medical Center.

His funeral service was Friday, Oct. 1, at the New Sharon United Methodist Church

with Pastor Boyd Sparks, of the Barnes City United Methodist Church, officiating. Interment followed at Barnes City Cemetery in Barnes City with the Rev. Kevin Glesener officiating, and with full military honors given by members of the Fuller-Sarvis American Legion Post No. 507 of Barnes City. Harden Funeral Home in New Sharon was in charge of the arrangements.

Norman Robert Mason was born on Sept. 15, 1917 near Delta, the son of Oliver and Bertha Small Mason. He attended Davenport country school and Delta High School. In January of 1941, he enlisted in the U.S. Army. On Nov. 16, 1941, Norman was united in marriage to Grace Walker in Lancaster, Mo. Norman was sent overseas in November of 1943 and served in the European Theater during World War II. He returned in 1945 and settled with his family in Barnes City where he went into the trucking and corn-shelling business. Here, he served on the city council, was mayor for two

terms and served on the volunteer fire department. In 1962, he began work for Oscar Mayer at their hog-buying station. He moved to Perry in 1974 to work in the Oscar Mayer plant there. He retired in 1983 and moved to New Sharon. Norman was a charter member of the Fuller-Sarvis American Legion Post No. 507 at Barnes City and had been a member for 60 years. He enjoyed golfing, the Iowa State Fair (which he and Grace had attended for 54 consecutive years) and spending winters in Texas.

Norman's memory is honored by his wife of 62 years, Grace; son Jerry Mason and wife Clare and his daughter Janet Pinkerton and husband David, all of New Sharon; and six grandchildren. Also surviving are five sisters, Mae Ruby of New Sharon, Wanda Robertson, and Ivalene Robbins and her husband David, all of Oskaloosa, Wilma Sanders of Deep River, and Nancy Doonan and husband Larry, of Barnes City; three brothers, Paul Mason and wife Louella, of Montezuma, Walter Mason and wife Lavonne, of New Sharon, and Earnest Mason and wife Joan, of Oskaloosa; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by two brothers, William and Oren Mason; two sisters, Edith Kinney and Ina Cox, and three half sisters.

Memorials may be made to the New Sharon Fire and Rescue Association or to the Barnes City Volunteer Fire Department.

MR - OCT. 6, 2004