

MR - DEC. 31, 2003

John Rea, 49

John Rea, 49, of Deep River, died Sunday, Dec. 21, 2003, at the University of Iowa Hospital at Iowa City, and was cremated.

His memorial service was on Tuesday, Dec. 23, at the Harden Funeral Chapel in What Cheer with the Rev. Vince Homan of the What Cheer United Methodist Church officiating. Harden Funeral Chapel of What Cheer was in charge of the arrangements.

John Edward Rea was born on Jan. 12, 1954, at Oskaloosa, the son of Bill and Trula Bearden Rea. He was raised in What Cheer and worked at Dave Newcomb's Grocery Store during high school. He graduated from Tri-County High School in Thornburg in 1972. After graduating, he went to work for Kingsbury Homes at Sigourney. In 1973, he left Kingsbury Homes and worked at

the Star Inn Truck Stop on I-80, north of What Cheer, for 20 years until the truck stop went out of business. John then worked at Coastal Mart for a few years and then at Fuel Mart until his health started to fail. John's hobbies included fishing, hunting and camping. John was a member of the National Riflemen's Association and the Deep River Saddle Club.

Survivors include his wife, Sue Rea, of Deep River; his mother, Trula Rea of What Cheer; a sister, Linda VanDevender and her husband Larry of What Cheer; three nephews, Danny VanDevender, Slate Sweat and Jesse Beenken, and a niece, Tami Tish.

He was preceded in death by his father.

A memorial has been established in his name.