

Jimmie L. Vitera

Jimmie L. Vitera, 69, of Montezuma died of cancer Saturday, June 28, at Grinnell Regional Medical Center.

Funeral services were conducted Tuesday at the Watts Funeral Home in Montezuma, with the Rev. John Epperson, pastor of the Grinnell Christian Church, officiating. Casket bearers were Jerry Vitera, Tim Vitera, Frank Blanchard, Jim Vitera, Mike Richman and Dennis Bruns.

Graveside military rites were conducted by members of Blakley-Stevens American Legion Post of Montezuma, with burial in Golden Rod Cemetery, Deep River.

He was the son of James and Lula Kirby Vitera and was born Dec. 7, 1927, in Barnes City. He was raised in Barnes City until the family moved to Montezuma while he was in junior high school. He was a 1946 graduate of Montezuma High School.

He worked for the Rock Island Railroad and served with the U.S. Army during World War II and the Korean conflict.

He was married to Joan Olin Jan. 6, 1951, in Sigourney. They lived in Wellman for two years before moving to Montezuma. Mr. Vitera continued to work for the railroad until 1979 when he retired because of an eye injury.

He was a member of the Blakley-Stevens American Legion Post and VFW Post No. 8876, both of Montezuma.

Surviving are his wife; five children, Robert of Montezuma, Cindy Northcutt of Lynnville, Nancy Stephenson of What Cheer, Julie Hendrickson of Grinnell and Sally of Grinnell; six grandchildren; one brother, Rex of Manson; and one sister, Rose Sipes of Glendale, Ariz.

He was preceded in death by his parents; two brothers, Orville and Lawrence; and one sister, Betty Wide.

Memorials in his name may be made to Grinnell Regional Hospice.

Jimmie L. Vitera, 69

Jimmie L. Vitera, 69, died June 28, 1997 at the age of 69 after a lengthy battle with cancer. He died at Grinnell Regional Medical Center in Grinnell.

Funeral services were held July 1 at Watts Funeral Home in Montezuma. Officiating was Rev. John Epperson of the Christian Church in Grinnell. Music played was "Life's Railway to Heaven" and "Amazing Grace". Honorary casket bearers were the members of VFW 8876 of Montezuma. Casket bearers were Jerry Vitera, Tim Vitera, Frank Blanchard, Jim Vitera, Mike Richman and Dennis Bruns. Military graveside rites were performed by members of Blakley-Stevens American Legion Post #169 of Montezuma. Burial was in Golden Rod Cemetery in Deep River.

Jimmie was born December 7, 1927 at Barnes City, Iowa, the son of James and Lula (Kirby) Vitera. He was raised in Barnes City until his junior high years, when his family moved to Montezuma. He graduated from Montezuma High School in 1946. After graduation he began working for the Rock Island Railroad before serving his country in the U.S. Army for 18 1/2 months during World War II and the Korean War. Returning home he continued working on the Rock Island Railroad.

On January 6, 1951 he was united in marriage with Joan (Olin) at Sigourney. To this union ~~one~~ son and four daughters

for two years before making Montezuma their home, where they have since resided. Jimmie continued to work for the railroad until 1979, when after 33 1/2 years he retired due to disability from an eye injury.

He was a member of the Blakley-Stevens American Legion No. 169 and VFW Post No. 8876 both of Montezuma.

He was preceded in death by his parents, James and Lula Vitera; two brothers, Orville and Lawrence "Bo" Vitera; and one sister, Betty Wide.

Jimmie is survived by his wife, Joan of Montezuma and their five children, Robert Vitera of Montezuma; Cindy Northeutt of Lynnvile; Nancy Stephenson of What Cheer; Julee Hendrickson of Grinnell; and Sally Vitera of Grinnell; six grandchildren, Chris and Sarah Northeutt; Shane, Joseph and Nikki Stephenson; and Samantha Vitera; one brother, Rex Vitera of Manson; one sister, Rose Ida Sipes of Glendale, Ariz.; many neices and nephews; and other relatives and friends.

Also, Jimmie had an extended family for the past year which were very special to him, especially Katie H. of Hospice, whom Jimmie called his angel, along with the Hospice team members and volunteers.

M R July 2, 1997