George Franklin Bear, 71

George Franklin Bear, age 71 former Rhodes resident, died Sunday evening January 23, 2005 at the Iowa Veterans Home where he had lived for the past 28 years.

Funeral services are set for 10:30 AM Wednesday from the Estel-Perrin-Avey Chapel with Sister Rosemary Vaske of the Iowa Veterans Home officiating. Burial will follow at Rose Hill Memorial Gardens, with flag presentation by the Rhodes American Legion, Post 456.

He was born in Marshalltown on May 12, 1933 the son of George and Ilma Ficken Bear.

Four children survive Craig and wife Mary Bear of State Center; Cheryl, Mrs. Jeff Rankin of Marshalltown; Tim and wife Lynne Bear of Melbourne and Trudy Fricke of Marshalltown.

There are 8 grandchildren surviving: Taylor and Kim Bear; Adam and Jaque Bear; Sonia, Mrs. Israel Hernandez; Sara Davis; Amber Fricke; Sierra Fricke; Mike Bear and Hallie Bear.

Also there are two great-grandchildren, Kodi Bachman and Dallas Bear.

One sister Shirley Nason of Marshalltown survives.

Preceding him in death were his parents and one brother.

Raised and educated in Rhodes, he graduated from the Rhodes High School.

Following his schooling he joined the US Army and served two years during the Korean Conflict. Upon his return he began farming, later working for the State Center Creamery and the Iowa Highway Dept.

George was a former member of the Rhodes United Methodist Church and a member of the American Legion.

During his 27 years at the Iowa Veterans Home he made many friends both staff and residents, they will miss him as much as his family.