

DONALD BENSON, 85

Donald Benson, 85, of Marshalltown, entered into eternal life December 8, 2009, at Westbrook Acres Nursing Home. Funeral services were held Saturday, December 12, 2009, at Pursel-Davis Funeral Home.



Following the service Mr. Benson was cremated and laid to rest at a later date in Rose Hill Memorial Gardens. Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.vogelfuneralhomes.com.

Donald Merrill Benson was born December 22, 1923, in Laurel, IA, the son of Charles and Hazel (Speas) Benson. He graduated from Marshalltown High School in 1941. Don was united in marriage to Juanita Hannigan on May 21, 1942, and they were blessed with two children, Linda (Jim) Caldwell and Bill (Cindy) Benson both of Marshalltown.

Don worked for M&St. L Railroad and later moved to Boone where he worked for the Ft. Dodge and Des Moines Southern R.R. After moving to Streater, IL, for one year with the Rail Road, they moved back to

Marshalltown. Don worked for CNW R.R. until he retired in 1985. Juanita died in 1969 and he then married Marilyn Barrett in 1973. Marilyn died in 1991. Don enjoyed dancing and playing cards. He loved going to functions at the Senior Citizens Center. Don was a member of the Moose Lodge and Hope United Methodist Church.

Don will be missed by his children; Linda and Bill; two step-sons, Alan and Roger Barrett; sisters, Viola McKim, Barbara Sherman and Beverly (Butch) Post; a brother, Ronald; his grandchildren, Angela (Jerry) Dietz, Rick (Suzie) Caldwell, Corey (Kevin) Bivins, Pat (Samantha) Benson; two step-grandchildren, Jason Madison and Alisha (Andrew) Neuroth; 11 great-grandchildren and five step-great-grandchildren.

Don was preceded in death by his parents; sisters, Madaline (in infancy), Marie (Russell) Harrison, Dorothy (Art) Olsen and a brother, Robert and spouses Juanita and Marilyn and several nieces and nephews.

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