

Thursday, July 9, 2009

**BRUCE M. BOLEN,
SR. 82**

TAMA-Bruce M. Bolen Sr., age 82, of Tama died Friday, July 3, 2009, at Sunny Hill Care Center in Tama under the care of Iowa Hospice. Memorial services were held on Tuesday, July 7, 2009, at Living Faith United Methodist Church in Tama with Pastor Jerry Avise-Rouse officiating. The interment was private. Kruse-Phillips Funeral Home in Tama handled the arrangements.



Bruce was born on March 16, 1927, in Brooklyn, Iowa, the son of Verner and Carrie (Graham) Bolen. He graduated from Grinnell High School. He was united in marriage with Olive Van Riper on November 9, 1945, in Ames. Bruce was a lifelong farmer.

He and Olive founded and operated Bolen's Arrowhead B Campground from 1972 until 1985. Bruce was a member of Living Faith United Methodist Church in Tama. He and Olive had a winter home in Texas that they enjoyed for thirty-two years. Bruce also enjoyed square dancing and spending time with their grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents and one brother, Donald Bolen.

Survivors include his wife, Olive of Tama; four children, Sally (Bob) Bone of Birmingham, AL, Bruce Jr. (Connie) Bolen of Greentop, MO, Ben (Jean) Bolen of Tama, and Dave (Ann) Bolen of Tama; fifteen grandchildren; sixteen great-grandchildren; one great-great-granddaughter; two sisters, Dora Pech of Phoenix, AZ, and Ann Smalley of Claremore, OK; a very close cousin that lived with them for many years, Ron (Judie) Clayton of Grinnell; and a foreign exchange student Julio Ambrosio of Argentina.

Memorials are appreciated to the Parkinson's Disease Foundation or Iowa Hospice.