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Lawrence E. Gardner



April 28, 1918, to July 7, 2002

Lawrence E. Gardner, 84, of Cambridge, died of cancer Sunday, July 7, at the Kavanagh Hospice Home in Des Moines.

He was born April 28, 1918, in Clear Lake to Earl C. and Esta (Mount) Gardner. He graduated from the Mingo High School in 1936. He married Sarah Hill on March 2, 1941, in Cambridge. He owned a garage and Case Implement dealership for 25 years before working at the National Animal Disease Center in Ames for 20 years. He retired in 1978. He was a veteran of World War II, having served in the Army. He was a member of the Tabernacle Lodge No. 452 of Cambridge, was a lifetime member of the American Legion Post No. 233 and the Cambridge VFW. He had served as mayor of Cambridge, president of the school board and as chief of the Cambridge Volunteer Fire Department. He enjoyed woodworking and flying radio-controlled airplanes.

Survivors include three sons, Richard Eugene (and Mary Rosalee) Gardner of Urbandale, Ronald Alan (and Valerie) Gardner of Gardiner, Mont., and Brian Earl (and Rondi) Gardner of Leewood, Kan.; a daughter, Sandra Lee (and Ronald) Raney of Hampton; 12 grandchildren; and a brother, Leland Gardner of Cambridge.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his wife on May 19, 2001.

Funeral services were held Wednesday at Nazareth Lutheran Church in Cambridge with the Rev. Marcia Kisner officiating. The American Legion presented military honors. The body will be cremated and a private inurnment will be held at a later date in the Cambridge Cemetery. Bacon Funeral Home, Maxwell, handled arrangements.

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