

Motorcycle Accident Takes Life of Richard Karsjen

MELBOURNE — Richard Karsjen, 21, Melbourne, died early Thursday evening, June 5 as the result of a motorcycle accident outside of Melbourne.

The accident occurred at the southwest edge of town about 8:40 p.m., when the motorcycle he was riding slipped off the side of the blacktop on an "S" curve

going out of control and striking a mailbox at the George Klaas residence.

Karsjen was not wearing a helmet or protective clothing, according to the authorities. Death was due to a broken neck, according to Dr. Ray G. Robinson, State Center, deputy Marshall County medical examiner.

Funeral services were held Monday at 3 p.m. from the Rhodes Methodist Church, with the Rev. Nancy Nichols officiating. Burial was in the Eden Cemetery near Rhodes. Pursel-Davis Funeral Home, Marshalltown, was in charge of arrangements.

He was born Feb. 9, 1954 in Marshalltown, the son of LaVerne and Alice Pohlman Karsjen, Sr. He was educated in Rhodes. He was employed at Swifts Packing Co.

On Dec. 15, 1973, he married Sherry Purvis.

Surviving besides his widow and parents, are four brothers, Steven of Rhodes, David of rural State Center, LaVern Jr. of Rhodes, and Dennis of Marshalltown, and one sister, Mrs. Robert (Linda) Wells of San Jose, Calif. His paternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Jake Karsjen of Iowa Falls, his maternal grandmother, Mrs. Gertrude Pohlman of Nevada, and a great grandfather Jasper Mein of New Providence also survive.

He was a member of the Rhodes Methodist Church and the Moose Lodge.