

Matters, Robert L. J. 12-30-2008

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Robert Laverne Matters

OCT. 17, 1922-DEC. 30, 2008

Robert Laverne Matters, 86, of Ames, died Tuesday, Dec. 30, 2008, at Mary Greeley Medical Center in Ames. Funeral services will be at 1 p.m. Monday, Jan. 5, at Bethesda Lutheran Church in Ames, with Pastor Joel Hoogheem officiating. Burial will follow in Ames Municipal Cemetery.

Visitation will be from 5 to 7 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 4, at Stevens Memorial Chapel in Ames.

Robert Laverne Matters was born Oct. 17, 1922, in Ames, to William and Oletha (Banks) Matters. He attended Ames and Milford Schools, and enlisted into the U.S. Marine Corps and served from 1942 to 1945. He participated in operations against enemy forces on Tarawa, Gilbert Islands,

in 1943 and was awarded the Purple Heart while fighting for his country in Saipan in 1944. He married Mary Jean Peterson on Sept. 29, 1945, in Vallejo, Calif. He worked as parts manager for Benson Motors, retiring in 1987. He enjoyed camping, but most of all, he enjoyed spending time with his family.

He is survived by his two sons, Bob (Betsy) Matters Jr., of Minneapolis, and Greg (Sally) Matters, of Ames; four grandchildren, Drew Matters, Reed Matters, Valerie Matters and Kelly Jo Matters; and two sisters, Betty Long, of Collins, and Doris Million, of California.

He was preceded in death by his wife; his parents; and three brothers, Les, Dick and Kenneth.