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Billy Ray McKee

Aug. 16, 1934, to Oct. 7, 2002

Billy "Bill" Ray McKee, 68, of Ames and formerly of Nevada, died of complications from a choking incident on Monday, Oct. 7, at Mary Greeley Medical Center in Ames.

He was born Aug. 16, 1934, in Nevada to Ray M. and Sarah Juanita (Parsons) McKee. He was a 1952 graduate of Nevada High School, where he was active in sports. He was employed by Rexall Drug in Nevada, Walgreens in Phoenix, Ariz., and Meredith Publishing in Des Moines. He was a member of the First Christian Church-Disciples of Christ in Nevada and enjoyed watching sports on television and attending his grandsons' sports activities. He moved to Ames 12 years ago from Nevada.

Survivors include a daughter, LeAnn (and Dennis) Backous of Colo; a son, Kerry (and Bonnie) Hitchings of Kent, Wash.; six grandsons; two great-grandchildren; and two sisters, Mary (and Larry) Spear of Ames and Carole (and Virgil) Pepper of Marshalltown.

He is preceded in death by his parents.

Graveside services were held today, Thursday, Oct. 10, at 11 a.m. at the Nevada Municipal Cemetery with Pastor Brice Hughes of the First Christian Church in Nevada officiating. A memorial fund has been established for the Alliance for the Mentally Ill of Central Iowa in Ames. Chet Ryan Mortuary, Nevada, handled arrangements.

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