

## TOM WILLITS, 91

Tom R. Willits, 91, a resident of Glenwood Place in Marshalltown, died Friday, July 11, 2008 at the Marshalltown Medical & Surgical Center while under the care of their staff and the Iowa River Hospice.

Funeral services and a Masonic Rite were held Monday, July 14th at the chapel of the Estel-Perrin-Avey Funeral Home with Chaplain Bobby Shomo officiating. Entombment followed in the Riverside Mausoleum. Memorials may be directed to Jonathan's House for Orphans, % Roger Hatch, 2626 Smith Ave., Marshalltown, IA 50158. Condolences may also be sent to Tom's family at [vogelfuneralhomes.com](http://vogelfuneralhomes.com).

Tom was born on October 11, 1916, in rural Rhodes, IA, the son of John Cushman Willits and Lucy Mae Zimmerman Willits. He was raised and educated in Ira, IA. On October 30, 1936, he was united in marriage to Bertha V. Brisel. Following their marriage, they lived in Ira until 1940 when they moved to Marshalltown where Tom was employed as a lineman for Iowa Electric Light & Power Company until his retirement in 1981.

Tom was a 50+ year member of the Marshall Masonic Lodge #108, A.F. & A.M. and an avid outdoorsman - enjoying hunting and trapping. He shared the hobbies of fishing, boating and ham radio operating with Bertha. Both Tom and Bertha were longtime members of the Grace United Methodist Church.

Tom is survived by a son, Larry (Peggy) Willits of Marshalltown and Perdido Key, FL; five grandchildren: Navy Cpt. Sarah Supnick, Eric and Marc Oehlsen, Nathen and Navy Lt. Joshua Willits.

Preceding him in death were his parents; Bertha, his wife of 69 years; and his daughter, Betty Oehlsen.

The Estel-Perrin-Avey Funeral Home is caring for Tom and his family.

