

RALPH T. YOUNG, SR., 81

Ralph T. Young, Sr., 81, of Melrose, Iowa, passed away Friday, September 19, 2008, at his home. Funeral services were held Wednesday, September 24, 2008, at the Estel-Perrin-Avey Funeral Home Chapel. Burial followed in the Riverside Cemetery in Marshalltown. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to the family. Online condolences may also be sent to the family at www.vogelfuneralhomes.com. Arrangements have been entrusted to Estel-Perrin-Avey Funeral Home.



Ralph was born April 4, 1927, the son of Clifford and Frances (Kunch) Young in Toledo, Iowa. He was raised in Marshalltown. He left high school to serve in the Merchant Marines on a tanker ship during WWII. On June 22, 1947, he was united in marriage to Jane Mathis at the Little Brown Church in Nashua, Iowa. They lived all their married lives in Marshalltown. In 1999, Ralph moved to Lake Rathbun. Ralph worked as an electrician out of local union #347 in Des Moines, Iowa, where he was a member for 55 years.

Ralph loved Lake Rathbun, where he could fish and hunt. He was also famous for his candy making skills, getting the nickname "Candy Man" by his many friends. He was also a Mason for over 50 years.

Ralph had a heart of gold and will be greatly missed by his daughter, Mary Jane (Greg) Curtis of Marshalltown; his sons, Ralph (Sue) Young of Urbandale and John (Darlene) Young of Nowata, OK; four grandchildren, Lisa Boettcher of IL, Taylor Young of Urbandale, Jennifer Ludemann of KS, and Frances Young of OK; seven great-grandchildren, Jacob, Zane, Javen and Jacey Boettcher, Christopher and Emma Ludemann and LoraLei Young.

Ralph was preceded in death by his parents; brother, Roy Young and his wife, Jane, in 1998.


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