Joseph ‘Wayne’ Handsaker

JUNE 24, 1926-AUG. 16, 2003

Joseph “Wayne” Handsaker, 77, of Colo, died Saturday, Aug. 16 at his home after a long-term illness. Services will be at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 20, at Colo United Methodist Church, with the Rev. Jim Roth officiating. Burial will be in Colo Cemetery.

Wayne was born June 24, 1926, the son of John William “Bill” and Clara (Burkhart) Handsaker. He graduated from Colo High School in 1944 and served in the U.S. Air Force. He married Ester Winborn Aug. 7, 1953, in Sharon Center Evangelical United Brethren Church near Kalona. He was a farmer and seed corn dealer, who was born and lived his entire life on the family century farm. He enjoyed woodworking, refinishing and making something out of nothing. Wayne and Ester enjoyed traveling. He was a member of Colo United Methodist Church.

He is survived by his wife, Ester, of Colo; two daughters, Anna Handsaker of Bettendorf and Marla (Byron) Turk of South Lake Tahoe, Calif.; one son, Rex (Bonita) Handsaker of Sanford, N.C.; three grandchildren, Brandon (Allison) Handsaker and Brooke Handsaker, all of Sanford, N.C., and Jack Turk of South Lake Tahoe, Calif.; and three brothers, John (Evelyn) Handsaker and Merlin (Margaret) Handsaker, all of Colo, and Vernon (Phyllis) Handsaker of Story City.

He was preceded in death by his parents and one brother, Clifford (Darlene) Handsaker.

Memorials may be directed to Colo United Methodist Church, Colo Fire Department or to American Cancer Society.

Bacon Funeral Home in Nevada is in charge of arrangements.
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He was born June 24, 1926, to John William "Bill" and Clara (Burkhart) Handsaker. He graduated from Colo High School in 1944 and served in the US Air Force. He married Ester Winborn on Aug. 7, 1953, in the Sharon Center Evangelical United Brethren Church near Kalona. He was a farmer and seed corn dealer, who was born and lived his entire life on the family century farm. He enjoyed wood working, refinishing and making something out of nothing. He and his wife enjoyed traveling. He was a member of the Colo United Methodist Church.

Survivors include his wife, Ester, of Colo; two daughters, Anna Handsaker of Bettendorf, and Marla (and Byron) Turk of South Lake Tahoe, Calif.; a son, Rex (and Bonita) Handsaker of Sanford, N.C.; three grandchildren; three brothers, John (and Evelyn) Handsaker, Merlin (and Margaret) Handsaker, both of Colo, and Vernon (and Hyllis) Handsaker of Story City.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a brother and his wife, Clifford and Darlene Handsaker.

Funeral services were held on Wednesday, Aug. 20, at the Colo United Methodist Church with the Rev. Jim Roth officiating. Burial was in the Colo Cemetery. Memorials may be made to the Colo United Methodist Church, the Colo Fire Department and to the American Cancer Society. Bacon Funeral Home, Nevada, handled arrangements.

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