

## DEATHS / LINN COUNTY

**Zela Rhea Smiley**, 68, of Woodville, Texas, formerly of Marion, died Wednesday, July 27, 1994, in her home after a long illness. Services: 11 a.m. Monday, Cedar Memorial Chapel of Memories, by the Rev. Hans Deutsehmann. Entombment: Cedar Memorial Park Cemetery. Friends may call from 1 to 6 p.m. Sunday at Cedar Memorial Funeral Home and after 10 a.m. Monday at the chapel.



Survivors include two sons, Bill of Cedar Rapids and Jerry of Houston; and three sisters, Charlene Smiley of Yazoo, Miss., Bobbie Love of East Pine, Mo., and Betty Janvier of New Jersey.

Also surviving are seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Zela was born April 15, 1926, in Arkansas to Harold and Zada Garner Reeves, and married Van H. Smiley on Sept. 25, 1943, in Lake City, Ark. He died May 5, 1986.

Memorial contributions may be made to Cedar Valley Humane Society, 7411 Mount Vernon Rd. SE, Cedar Rapids 52403.

**Domtario Montrell Pirtle**, 6-day-old son of Jackie and Jeannine Pirtle, of 1405 Sixth Ave. SE, died Thursday, July 28, 1994, in St. Luke's Hospital, of complications of birth. Graveside services: 2 p.m. Tuesday, Cedar Memorial Park Cemetery, by Elder Wendell Beets, senior pastor of Word of Faith Pentecostal Church of God in Christ. Friends may call from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday at Turner Chapel East.

Survivors include his parents; three brothers, Domonique, Isaiah and Omtario; and four sisters, Dawn Marie, Tiffany, Charmisha and Fillisha, all of Cedar Rapids.

Also surviving are his paternal grandparents, Leroy Pirtle and Ella Mae Brooks, both of Tennessee; and his maternal grandmother, Heratha O'Neal of Waterloo.

**Dean E. Brown**, 27, of 714 Seventh St. SW, died Thursday night, July 28, 1994, in St. Luke's Hospital. Memorial services: 1:30 p.m. today, First Baptist Church-Church of the Brethren. Arrangements are with Teahen Funeral Home.



Survivors include his wife, Cheryl; a daughter, Emily, at home; two brothers, David of Watsonville, Calif., and Duane of Cedar Rapids; a sister, Diane Rarick of Madison, Wis.; and his parents, Buzz and Arletta Brown of Palo.

Also surviving are his grandfather, David Ballantine of Arion; and his grandmother, Nell Brown of Waterloo.

Born Nov. 7, 1966, in Cedar Rapids, he married Cheryl Pennington there on Sept. 22, 1990. He was employed at Mercy Medical Center. Dean loved music and nature and will be greatly missed.

Instead of flowers, a memorial fund has been established.

**Martha Seiler**, 75, of 9405 Blairs Ferry Rd. NE, died Thursday, July 28, 1994, in St. Luke's Hospital after a long illness. Services: 10 a.m. Monday, Teahen Funeral Home, by the Rev. Jay Snell. Burial: Czech

National Cemetery. Friends may call from 5 to 8 p.m. Sunday and after 9 a.m. Monday at the funeral home.

Survivors include two sons, Ronald of Wiggins, Colo., and Allen of Cedar Rapids; a daughter, Sis of Cedar Rapids; and a sister, Agnes Warren of San Diego.

Also surviving are four grandchildren, Todd, Terri, Tami and Carri; two step-grandchildren, Tad and Vicki; two daughters-in-law, Kay and Nancy; and nine great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by four sisters and four brothers.

Born April 25, 1919, in Cedar Rapids, she married Lester Seiler there on Nov. 10, 1939. He died in 1961. She retired in 1977 from F.W. Means. Martha was a volunteer at Mercy Medical Center and received a certificate for 1,000 hours of work in the dialysis unit.

Instead of flowers, a memorial fund has been established.

**Wilma M. Schmidt**, 74, of 101 S. 11th St., Marion, died Thursday, July 28, 1994, in St. Luke's Hospital after a sudden illness. Memorial services and inurnment: 1 p.m. Monday, Rock Island Arsenal National Cemetery, Rock Island, Ill. Friends may call from 1 to 3 p.m. Sunday at Cedar Memorial Funeral Home.

Survivors include three sons, Robert Bird of Cedar Rapids, Richard Bird of Bothell, Wash., and Ronald Bird of Springfield, Ill.; two daughters, Dorothy Mahan and Marilyn McCullough, both of Davenport; two brothers, William of Davenport and

Hank of Fulton, Ill.; and two sisters, Esther of Clinton and Florence of Davenport.

Also surviving are 10 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Wilma was born Sept. 22, 1919, in Preston, to William and Margaret Carstens. She married Adolph J. Schmidt in Davenport in 1968. He died in December 1991.

Memorial contributions may be made to American Heart Association.



### SERVICES

**Arthur T. Short**: 11 a.m. today, St. John's Catholic Church, Coggon. Burial: Mount Olivet Cemetery, Coggon.

### DEATH NOTICES & OBITUARIES

Death notices and obituaries can be submitted at The Gazette between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, 12:30 to 6 p.m. on Saturday and 4 to 6 p.m. on Sunday and holidays.

Arrangements pending and death notices, including immediate survivors, and a photo of the deceased are published as a news item on this page.

Other obituary material, including additional survivors, employment, education, military service, civic and social activities, accomplishments, special interests and hobbies, friends, pets, memorials and eulogies will be published for 35 cents per word.

Second-day funeral notices and other deaths (formerly out-of-town) will be published at 35 cents per word.

See your funeral director for help in preparing an obituary. For further information about The Gazette's guidelines call 398-8221.

## DEATHS / EASTERN IOWA

### ANAMOSA

**Bert L. Wren**, 73, died Friday, July 29, 1994, in Anamosa Community Hospital after a short illness. Services: 1:30 p.m. Monday, Goettsch Funeral Home, Anamosa. Burial: Riverside Cemetery, with military rites. Friends may call from 3 to 8 p.m. Sunday at the funeral home.

Survivors include his wife, Lois; two sons, David of Langworthy and Bob of Dubuque; four daughters, Wanda Young of Springville, Jennifer Arduser of Monticello, Rebecca Norton of Bountiful, Utah, and Sherrie Critesser of Dallas; two brothers, Marshall of Joliet, Ill., and Charles of St. Louis; and a sister, Jessie Mitchell of Sandwich, Ill.

He was a Marine veteran.

A memorial fund has been established.

### BELLE PLAINE

**Darlene D. Garling**, 66, died Thursday, July 28, 1994, in University Hospitals, Iowa City, of congestive heart failure. Services: 2 p.m. Monday, First Lutheran Church, Belle Plaine. Burial: St. Paul's Lutheran Cemetery, Luzerne. Friends may call after 2 p.m. Sunday at Hrabak Funeral Home, Belle Plaine, and after 1 p.m. Monday at the church.

Survivors include her husband, Orville; a son, Dennis of Belle Plaine; a daughter, Sylvia Yoder of Utica, Neb.; and two sisters, Lucille Haugenbury of Marion and Lillian Kramer of Belle Plaine.

Also surviving are five grandchildren.

### CLUTIER

**Louis G. Podhajsky**, 84, of rural Clutier, died of renal failure Thursday evening, July 28, 1994, in Sunrise Hill Care Center, Traer, where he was transferred Tuesday from Covenant Medical Center, Waterloo. Services: 10:30 a.m. Monday, St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church, rural Clutier, by the Rev. John Tlip. Burial: church cemetery. Friends may call after 4 p.m. today at Mason-Hand Funeral Home, Tama, where there will be a rosary at 4 and vigil service at 7 p.m. Sunday. The family will be present from 2 to 7:30 p.m. Sunday at the funeral home.

Survivors include his wife, Mildred; and a son, Duane of rural Clutier.

### DYERSVILLE

**Charlotte A. Goardt**, 78, died Thursday evening, July 28, 1994, in her home after a short illness. Services: 10:30 a.m. Monday, St. Francis Xavier Basilica. Burial: church cemetery. Friends may call after 3 p.m. Sunday at Kramer Funeral Home, Dyersville, where a Scripture service begins at 7:30 p.m.

Survivors include her husband, Joseph; three daughters, Carmen Szabo of Stow, Ohio, Carla Henkels of Dubuque and Gayle Boeckenstedt of Dyersville; two sons, Gordon of Gonzales, Texas and Clyde of Dyersville; two sisters, Lola Goardt of Dyersville and Shirley Anderson of Cherokee; and a brother, Martin Bohlke of Dyersville.

### EDGEWOOD

**Russell C. Bowers**, 86, died Friday, July 29, 1994, in Delaware County Memorial Hospital, Manchester, after a brief illness. Services: 11 a.m. Monday, Leonard-Vernon Funeral Home, Edgewood, by the Rev. Mary Green. Burial: Edgewood Cemetery. Friends may call after 2 p.m. Sunday and after 7 a.m. Monday at the funeral home.

Survivors include his daughter, LaVonne Helle of Edgewood.

### IOWA CITY

**LaRissa Hines-Nunley**, 6-week-old daughter of Donald Nunley and Shawn Hines, of 2160 Taylor Dr., died Thursday morning, July 28, 1994, in University Hospitals of apparent sudden infant death syndrome. Services: 1 p.m. Monday, Donohue-Lensing Funeral Home, by the Rev. Royce Phillips. Burial: Oakland Cemetery. Friends may call from 6 to 8 p.m. Sunday at the funeral home.

Survivors include her parents; two sisters, Natasia Nunley and Brandi Jensen, and three brothers, DeRyan Hines, Donald Nunley Jr. and DeVante Hines, all of Iowa City.

### JESUP

**Burton John Bonefas**, 90, of rural Jesup, died Thursday, July 28, 1994, in Covenant Medical Center, Waterloo, after a lengthy illness. Services: 10:30 a.m. Monday, St. Athanasius Catholic Church. Burial: church cemetery. Friends may call after 7 tonight and anytime Sunday at White Funeral Home, Jesup, where there will be a rosary at 3 and vigil service at 7 p.m. Sunday.

Survivors include seven daughters, Rosemary Gilson of Gladstone, Mo., Karen Emick of Jesup, Kay Delagardelle of Gilbertville, Linda Hellenbeck of Hudson, Ohio, Connie Maynard of Independence, and Betty Watson and Diane Bonefas, both of Omaha, Neb.; four sons, John of Stafford, Ariz., Larry of Brandon, Jerry of Walker and Butch of Jesup; and a sister, Grace Fratzke of Jesup.

### MAQUOKETA

**Vera W. Jargo**, 97, died Friday afternoon, July 29, 1994, in Jackson County Public Hospital after a lengthy illness. Arrangements are pending at Carson & Son Funeral Home.

### OELWEIN

**Joseph Medina**, 50, of Fort Wayne, Ind., formerly of Oelwein, died Thursday, July 28, 1994, in his home after a short illness. Services: 11 a.m. Tuesday, Sacred Heart Catholic Church, by the Rev. John McTarsney. Burial: Woodlawn Cemetery. Friends may call from 6 to 9 p.m. Monday and 9 to 10:30 a.m. Tuesday at Jamison-Schmitz Funeral Home, Oelwein, where a Scripture service begins at 7:30 p.m. Monday.

Survivors include a son, Dean of Florida; two daughters, Jacqueline of Indianapolis and Traci of Plainfield, Ill.; his stepfather, Max Perez of Waterloo; a brother, Larry Perez of Albuquerque, N.M.; and a sister, Maggie Adams of Waterloo.

Also surviving is a brother-in-law, Rex Adams. A memorial fund has been established for the American Heart Association and the American Cancer Society.

### RIVERSIDE

**Delbert D. Flynn**, 79, died Thursday, July 28, 1994, in the Marshalltown Medical & Surgical Center after a short illness. Services: 11 a.m. Monday, Trinity Methodist Church, by the Rev. Robert Hoover. Burial: Riverside Public Cemetery. Friends may call from 4:30 to 7 p.m. Sunday at Sorden's Funeral Home, Riverside.

Survivors include his wife, Mildred of Iowa City; a son, James of Washington, Iowa; six daughters, Judy Kiefer of Kalona, Linda Wilkinson of Moline, Ill., Diane Flynn of Stillwater, Minn., Patricia Thomann of Riverside, Nancy Schmidt of Salt Lake City and Pamela Flynn of Colorado Springs, Colo.; and two brothers, Clifford of San Diego and Ward of Casper, Wyo.

### SHELLSBURG

**Margaret Spurgeon**, 50, died Friday, July 29, 1994, in Mercy Medical Center, Cedar Rapids, after an extended illness. Arrangements are pending at Phillips Funeral Home, Vinton.

### TORONTO

**Dorothy L. Marshall**, 90, formerly of the Wyoming and Toronto, Iowa, area, died Thursday, July 28, 1994, in Crest Health Center, Davenport, after a long illness. Services: 11 a.m. Monday, Chapman Funeral Home, Clarence, by the Rev. Paul Skelley of Lost Nation Presbyterian Church. Burial: Wyoming Cemetery, Wyoming. Friends may call after 10 a.m. Monday at the funeral home.

Survivors include a daughter, Shirley Hinz of Davenport.

Also surviving are seven grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren.

### WILLIAMSBURG

**Otto Hopp Sr.**, 99, died Friday, July 29, 1994, in Colonial Manor Care Center, Amana, after a lingering illness. Arrangements are pending at Uhlmann-Powell Funeral Home.

## Gumshoe: Case sends 'shivers up my spine'

From page 1B

boat industry. He dares to suggest that four recent Eastern Iowa homicides could be solved if agents had the time to devote to them. That "saddens me," he says.

"Today, we're turning into a New York City because we don't have the agents," says Marlin. "West Branch, West Liberty, Clinton, Monticello. How come (those murders) aren't solved? Because you hop, hop, hop from one to the next and don't have time to work them."

Those are words from a law officer who made a career as a master of the dodge and fake. "I like to be something I'm not," says Marlin, "to see if I can get by with it."

Among his most memorable moments of theater came in recent years when Marlin, his DCI partner at the time — now Cedar Rapids Public Safety Commissioner J.D. Smith — and two Cedar Rapids police detectives ran an imaginative, undercover property-fencing sting for several months in a Cedar Rapids storefront.

The building was within eyeshot of the YWCA, First Presbyterian Church and The Gazette. Only the 50 thieves eventually arrested knew the spot as the place to unload stolen property. Marlin was the mean "boss" and Smith, the silent hit man from Chicago. It was like a made-for-TV movie.

### Corrupt sherriff case

Still, it is a story that cannot rival the early 1970s when Marlin tangled with Scott County Sheriff Blackie Strout, and the late 1970s, when he worked the murder case of the Keota town marshal.

The Strout story grew out of Marlin's early DCI assignment along the Mississippi River, where he quickly found what he knew from growing up in Keokuk: The river was corrupt. "You had the girls; you had

liquor problems," he says.

Marlin says he took after Strout because Strout was demanding protection money be paid by store owners operating illegal gambling shops. The investigation led Marlin to Strout's farm getaway in the hills of Arkansas, where the sheriff supposedly had taken a stolen lawn tractor and diverted canned goods from the jail's commissary.

But before Marlin knew it, Strout arrested him on a trumped-up warrant for "conspiracy to prosecute." Marlin was jailed in the Davenport City Jail, where police officers and state agents and troopers stepped in and refused to allow Strout's deputies to take Marlin to the Scott County Jail.

Out on bail a few hours later and heading home, Marlin found the County Jail surrounded by state troopers who were not about to let Strout get Marlin in Strout's jail.

"It made my heart flutter," he recalls. Strout eventually was charged and, in a plea agreement, gave up his office.

Later, in 1976, Marlin was among DCI agents assigned to investigate the murder of Keota town marshal Douglas Bell.

Marlin says he interrogated suspect David Fagen, a local community college student majoring in law enforcement, after a DCI polygraph operator said Fagen appeared to be lying about the handling of the dead officer's weapon.

"I stayed on this guy," recalls Marlin. And Fagen broke. He told Marlin he did it. "I wasn't happy with it," says Marlin. "He didn't have a motive."

At the trial, says Marlin, Fagen testified that he confessed "only to get out of that room and away from Mike Marlin."

"He was acquitted, thank God," says Marlin. That was not the highlight of Marlin's career,

and he concedes that he took a ribbing from colleagues that usually went, "Send Marlin in there; he'll get a confession."

But it taught him not to place too much faith in polygraphs, and it sent him back on the hunt for a murderer.

In 1979, Eddie Don, the son of the Keokuk County medical examiner, was arrested and subsequently convicted in the marshal's murder.

### Spooked by suspect

Marlin's principal DCI role over the years was as intelligence officer, and he has many tales of tailing people, often late at night, waiting for them to commit crimes of which they were suspected.

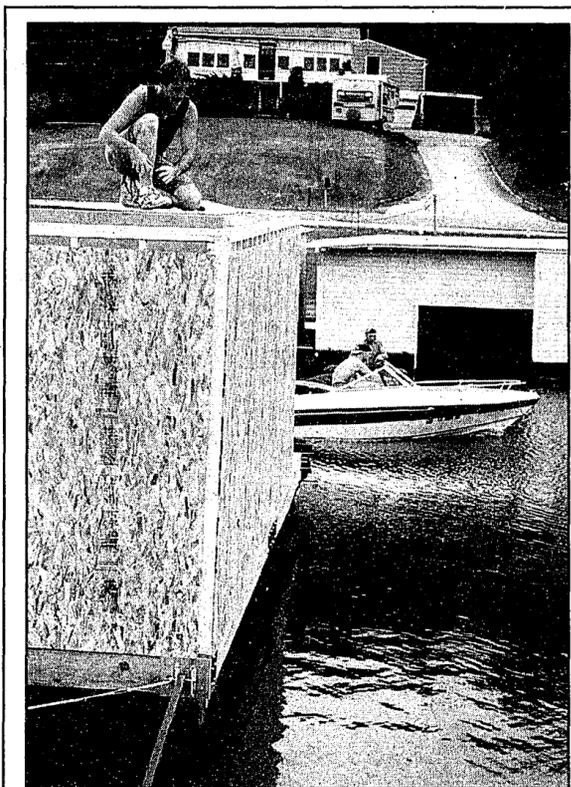
One such case gave Marlin what he calls the scariest moment of his career — in Grinnell on the hunt for a female arson suspect.

The woman had a routine of getting home late at night from work, sitting in the dark on her porch and then traveling around in her car. She was impossible to follow, says Marlin.

Late one night, with one DCI agent on a "night owl" scope to see in the dark, Marlin's job was to creep up to the suspect's car and attach a "bird-dog" device underneath it so investigators then could track her car on her nighttime travels.

Marlin casually walked up to the car, dropped some change, then bent down and gently put the device in place as if he were picking up his change. He slowly straightened up, and as his eyes reached the level of the car window, there was the suspect, eye-to-eye with him, staring out from inside the car.

"There I am, looking at her face-to-face," said Marlin. "She was in the damn car waiting for us. To this day, she puts more shivers up my spine just thinking about the case."



Gazette photo by L.W. Ward  
**FLOATING HOUSE:** Robert Hood works earlier this week on the boathouse that he's building with his cousin in the Ellis Boat Harbor. Both Hood and his cousin, John O'Connor, live near Ellis Park in Cedar Rapids.

## Autopsy: Boy had head wounds

MASON CITY (AP) — Autopsy results show a 20-month-old Mason City boy suffered wounds to his head before he drowned, officials said.

John Snyder Jr. disappeared July 20.

His body was found the next day in a creek near downtown Mason City. Last week, preliminary results cited drowning as

the cause of death.

Mason City Police Chief Duane Jewell said Friday that the latest autopsy results from Dr. Thomas Bennett, the state medical examiner, do not show signs of sexual assault.

There have been no arrests in the boy's death, which is being treated as a homicide.

## Publicity aids recovery of child support

By Rod Boshart  
Gazette Des Moines Bureau  
DES MOINES — The state Department of Human Services has recovered nearly \$1.5 million in unpaid child support since announcing plans last fall to publish the names of delinquent parents, officials said Friday.

More than \$550,000 in overdue child support has been collected from parents whose case names were made public on March 30, said Doris Taylor of the DHS child support recovery unit. That was in addition to \$900,000 received after the initial notice was sent to 80,000 individuals in October 1993.

"That's money that came from cases that we hadn't been receiving payment on," Taylor said.

The department released names of more than 27,000 parents who hadn't made a support payment in the 90 days prior to Jan. 31. Only 52 county lists actually were published, however, she said.

Many newspaper editors declined to publish the case names for lack of information. The DHS is now required to release the obligor's address and the range of support owed when the next case lists are released.

Taylor said many people whose names appeared in newspapers, including The Gazette, contacted the agency to make arrangements to pay off the delinquency or set up income withholding orders to avoid having their names published again.

**Eastern Iowa court news on page 14D**