

DEATHS/EASTERN IOWA

CEDAR RAPIDS

Beulah M. Arnold, 82, of 723 Danbury St. NE, died Sunday, July 23, 1995, in her niece's Center Point home after a short illness. Services: 10 a.m. Thursday, First Assembly of God, by the Revs. Don McGarvey and Bernard Reece. Burial: 3 p.m. Thursday, Highland Memory Gardens, Des Moines. Friends may call from 5 to 8 p.m. Wednesday at Cedar Memorial Funeral Home and after 9 a.m. Thursday at the church.

Survivors include two stepsons, Lester Arnold of Des Moines and Stanley Arnold of Overland Park, Kan.; and a sister, Edith Banning of Des Moines.

Also surviving are a sister-in-law, Maxine Huser of Des Moines; many nieces and nephews, including Denise Piper of Center Point, Al Gatchell of Indianapolis and Paul Gatchell of Birmingham, Ala.; and several stepgrandchildren.

Beulah was born May 29, 1913, in Polk County, the daughter of Rudolph and Ida Moeckley Huser. She graduated from the Open Bible Institute, Des Moines, in 1949 and married Charley G. Arnold on April 8, 1960, in Des Moines. He died Jan. 29, 1970. Beulah was a member of First Assembly of God, where she taught Sunday school and was a member of the missionary board.

Beulah's family and faith were very important in her life, and she is now at home with her Lord. A memorial fund has been established.

Leonard H. Emerson, 90, of Mingo, formerly of Cedar Rapids, died of congestive heart failure Sunday, July 23, 1995, in his home. Committal services: 11 a.m. Wednesday, Cedar Memorial Chapel of Memories, where friends may call after 10 a.m. Wednesday. Burial: Cedar Memorial Park Cemetery. Arrangements are with Wallace-Pence Funeral Home, Newton.

Survivors include two sons, Leonard Jr. and Donald and wife Betty, both of Cedar Rapids; a daughter, Marilyn McNamara of Mingo; 14 grandchildren; many great-grandchildren; and several great-great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Ruby; two sisters, Gwendolyn in infancy and Marjorie Bell; and five brothers, Charles in infancy, Eugene, Wilmer, Harlen and Melford.

Born Feb. 23, 1905, in Olin, the son of Earl and Hulda Jane Brady Emerson, he married Ruby Lucille Hall on Nov. 23, 1926, in Springville. Leonard farmed and was a truck driver for Gee Grading in Cedar Rapids, where he spent most of his life. He was a member of Teamsters Retirees Union. Leonard had resided in Mingo for 1½ years.

Memorials may be made in his name.

James W. Gillis, 47, of 2066 Riverview St. SE, died Saturday night, July 22, 1995, in University Hospitals, Iowa City, after a lengthy illness. Graveside services: 2 p.m. Tuesday, McBroom Cemetery, rural Shellsburg, by the Rev. Steven Remper. There will be no visitation. Phillips Funeral Home, Vinton, is in charge of arrangements.

Survivors include two sons, Eric of Iowa City and Scott of Cedar Rapids.

Also surviving are his former wife, Charlene Gillis; a daughter-in-law, Angie; and grandchildren, Nicole and Zachary Gillis.

Sidney H. Johnson, 85, a resident of Heritage Acres Care Center, died there Sunday, July 23, 1995, after a long illness. Services: 1 p.m. Wednesday, Cedar Memorial Chapel of Memories, by the Rev. Randy Kasch of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church. Burial: Cedar Memorial Park Cemetery. Friends may call from 5 to 9 tonight at Cedar Memorial Funeral Home and after noon Wednesday at the chapel.

Survivors include three daughters, Evalyn Davis, Dellene Reed and husband Vernon, and Helen Davis and husband Jim, all of Cedar Rapids; three sisters, Pauline Doyel and husband Nat of Cedar Rapids, Gladys Lysell and husband Frank of East Moline, Ill., and Helen Grau of Carman, Ill.; a brother, LeLand of Wadsworth, Nev.; nine grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; a great-great-granddaughter; a brother-in-law, Bob Geater of Mount Auburn; a sister-in-law, Eileen Johnson of Keystone; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, two sisters and two brothers.

Sidney was born May 29, 1910, in Cedar Rapids, the son of Carl and Hilma Erickson Johnson. He worked for the Milwaukee Railroad for 28 years and was a member of the Eagles Club. Sidney was an avid bowler, bingo player and enjoyed listening to and playing polka music.

A memorial fund has been established.

Leonard H. Kolar, 80, of 323 40th St. NE, died Friday, July 21, 1995, in Mercy Medical Center after a long illness. Services: 10 a.m. Wednesday, Stewart Funeral Home, where friends may call from 5:30 to 8 p.m. today and where a rosary will be recited at 7 tonight. The Rev. Karl Glovik will officiate. Burial: Mount Calvary Cemetery.

Survivors include a daughter, Bea Ann of Cedar Rapids; two sons, Charles of California and Leonard of Cedar Rapids; and a sister, Eleanor Lathrop of California.

Also surviving are two grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

Leonard was born Feb. 24, 1915, in Cedar Rapids to Louis and Mabel Langworthy Kolar. He married Beatrice Kehoe in 1938. She died July 26, 1985. Leonard was a retired machinist from Harnischfeger Corp. and a former member of Immaculate Conception Catholic Church.

GUTTENBERG

Velma Leona Winch, 80, died Sunday, July 23, 1995, in Guttenberg Care Center after a brief illness. Services: 11 a.m. today, Tuecke-Allyn Funeral Home, Guttenberg, by the Rev. Harold McMillin. Burial: Guttenberg City Cemetery.

Survivors include a sister, Hattie Clefish of Guttenberg; and two brothers, Ernest of Garber and Vallie of Dickinson, N.D.

CEDAR RAPIDS

Albert F. Martinko, 76, of 4312 Woodfield Lane NE, died Monday, July 24, 1995, in St. Luke's Hospital after a long illness. Services: 1 p.m. Thursday, Cedar Memorial Chapel of Memories, with military rites. The Rev. David Beckman of St. Pius X Catholic Church will officiate. Burial: Cedar Memorial Park Cemetery. Friends may call from 5 to 8 p.m. Wednesday at Cedar Memorial Funeral Home and after noon Thursday at the chapel.

Survivors include his wife, Janet; a daughter, Janelle Stonebraker and husband John of Bettendorf; a sister, Irma Macala of Youngstown, Ohio; and two grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by a daughter, Michelle; two brothers; and two sisters.

Albert was born Dec. 3, 1918, in Youngstown, Ohio, and married Janet A. Zillig on Oct. 22, 1945, in Biloxi, Miss. Albert was a watchmaker and worked at Smulekoff's for 33 years, retiring in 1981. He was a member of St. Pius X Catholic Church and American Legion Hanford Post 5. Albert served in the Air Force during World War II.

Memorial donations may be given to St. Pius X Catholic Church. Military rites by American Legion Hanford Post 5.

CENTER POINT

Doris Anna Laura Haars, 94, formerly of Center Point, died Monday, July 24, 1995, in West Village Care Center, Independence, after a long illness. Services: 2 p.m. Wednesday, Murdoch Funeral Home, Center Point, where friends may call from 4 to 7 p.m. today. The Rev. John Caughron will officiate. Burial: Troy Mills Cemetery, Troy Mills.

Survivors include a son, Richard of Lake Worth, Texas; three daughters, Roberta Sholes of Center Point, Norma Andersen of Salado, Texas, and Emilie Slaymaker of Center Point; and two sisters, Donna Heiserman of Independence and Hilda Ramsey of Troy Mills.

Also surviving are 12 grandchildren, 24 great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Fred; a son, Bernard; a brother, Robert; and a sister, Faye Dudley.

Born Nov. 11, 1900, to Richmond and Lizzie McPike Elliott in Troy Mills, she married Fred Haars on Oct. 22, 1918, in Marion. She was a lifetime resident of Linn County and had lived in the Center Point area since 1930.

DECORAH

Barbara Skillings, 43, died Friday, July 21, 1995, in Lutheran Hospital ER, La Crosse, Wis., following an auto accident that day near Decorah. Services: 11 a.m. Wednesday, St. Benedict's Catholic Church, Decorah. Burial: 3 p.m. Thursday, St. Mary of Mount Carmel Cemetery, Long Prairie, Minn. Friends may call from 3 to 8 p.m. today at French & Balik Funeral Home, where there will be a rosary at 4 and parish service at 7 p.m.

Survivors include two daughters, Jeanne of Decorah and Amy of Spring Valley, Calif.; two sons, Trent of Decorah and Troy of Glendale, Ariz.; her parents, George and Charlotte Thom of Long Prairie, Minn.; two sisters, Janet Robinson of Hutchinson, Minn., and Nancy Thompson of Anoka, Minn.; and seven brothers, Russell Thom of Sauk Center, Minn., Earl and Tim Thom, both of Long Prairie, Bruce Thom of Rice, Minn., Wayne Thom of Swanville, Minn., Larry Thom of Melrose, Minn., and John Thom of Grey Eagle, Minn.

INDEPENDENCE

Louise M. Beacom, 80, of Independence, formerly of Cedar Rapids, died Sunday, July 23, 1995, in Covenant Medical Center, Waterloo, after a short illness. Services: 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Reiff Funeral Home, Independence, by the Rev. Jack Weida of First United Methodist Church. Burial: Linwood Cemetery, Cedar Rapids. Friends may call after 8 a.m. Wednesday at the funeral home.

Surviving is a niece, Ellen Cuenca of Redwood City, Calif.

IOWA CITY

Harland McMillin, 78, formerly of the Ecumenical Towers, died Sunday, July 23, 1995, in Greenwood Manor, Iowa City, after a lengthy illness. Graveside services: 4 p.m. Wednesday, Memory Gardens Cemetery, by the Rev. Bob Welsh. There will be no visitation. The body has been cremated. George L. Gay Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

There are no immediate survivors.

MANCHESTER

Elmer W. Witt, 82, of Long Beach, Calif., formerly of Manchester, died Saturday, July 8, 1995, in Regency Oaks Nursing Home, Long Beach, after a brief illness. Memorial graveside services: 2 p.m. Thursday, Oakland Cemetery. Arrangements are with Shelly Funeral Home.

Survivors include a sister, Marie Landis, and a brother, Paul, both of Manchester.

MOUNT VERNON

Earl Anthony Bensmiller, 52, of Avondale, Ariz., formerly of Mount Vernon, died of a heart attack Monday, July 17, 1995, in his home. Memorial services were Thursday in Avondale, with burial in Holy Cross Cemetery.

Survivors include his wife, Patricia; a son, Daniel, and a stepdaughter, Chantel, both at home; his mother, Veronica of Scottsdale, Ariz.; four sisters, Carolyn Kelly of Thurmont, Md., Mary Armstrong of Anchorage, Alaska, Francis Lanning of Nevada, Iowa, and Linda Ridgeway of Allentown, Pa.; and two brothers, Robert of Lisbon and Dale Richard of Scottsdale, Ariz.

Also surviving are many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his father, James; and a nephew, Aaron.

Earl graduated from Mount Vernon High School, then entered the Marines. He began his career as a lineman for a telephone company and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in business from the University of Arizona. Earl eventually became a regional divisional manager for US West Communications in Phoenix, with a career spanning 28 years.

Earl was an avid runner, cyclist and outdoors person, who enjoyed his family and life. He will be greatly missed by many.

MAQUOKETA

Allen L. "Doodle Bug" Watters, 55, of Charleston, Utah, formerly of Maquoketa, died Wednesday, July 19, 1995, in Charleston. Services: 2 p.m. Wednesday, Haylock-O'Hara & Lahey Funeral Home, Maquoketa, where friends may call after noon Wednesday. Burial: National Cemetery, Rock Island Arsenal, Rock Island, Ill.

Survivors include a daughter, Julie Tubbs of Oxford Junction; a son, Jeff of Colorado Springs, Colo.; a sister, June Hollenback of Farley; and four brothers, Leroy Mueller of Maquoketa, Wesley Mueller of Sabula, Robert Mueller of Memphis, Tenn., and DeLos Biddle of Urbandale.

NEW LIBERTY

Shirley Ann Petersen, 61, of Bella Vista, Ark., formerly of New Liberty, died Sunday, July 23, 1995, in Washington Regional Hospital, Fayetteville, Ark. Services: 10:30 a.m. Friday, Chapman Funeral Home, Wheatland, where friends may call from 3 to 8 p.m. Thursday. The Rev. Harold Koenig will officiate. Burial: Pine Hill Cemetery, Davenport.

Survivors include her husband, Harlan; a son, Duane of Cypress Spring, Texas; two daughters, Deborah Cyp of Conway, Ark., and Lori Conrad of Lowden; and a brother, Delmar Spickermann of New Liberty.

Also surviving are seven grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents and a brother.

Shirley was born in Davenport to Fritz and Mildred Spickermann and married Harlan E. Petersen on Feb. 26, 1955, in Iowa. The couple moved to Bella Vista approximately three years ago, where Shirley was a member of First United Methodist Church.

OELWEIN

Mary Phyllis Gaffney, 78, of Oelwein, formerly of Winthrop, died of cancer Sunday, July 23, 1995, in her home. Services: 10 a.m. Thursday, Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Oelwein, by the Rev. James Goedken. Burial: St. Patrick's Cemetery, Winthrop. Friends may call after 7 tonight at Fawcett Funeral Home, Winthrop, where there will be a rosary at 3 and Scripture service at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday.

Survivors include her husband, Andrew; 10 children: Jerome and wife Evelyn of Gainesville, Fla., Paul and wife Kathy of Stuart, Ann and husband Dave Appell of Galva, Ill., Colleen of Boulder, Colo., Rick and wife Lorraine and Leo and wife Lori, both of Ryan, Mark and wife Mary Lou of Winthrop, Susan and husband Steve Ernest of Story City, John and wife Lori of Topeka, Kan., and Trish and husband Rupert Solis of Chicago; and 26 grandchildren: Janet and husband Pete Ramondetta, Lisa, Eric, Michelle, Bob, Tom, Maria, Joseph, Matt, Christy, Sarah, Dawn, April, Ryan, Elizabeth, Morgan and Andrew Gaffney; Mike, Nick, Chris and Katie Appell; Kelly and John Ernest, and Nicole, Andres and Rachel Solis.

Phyllis R. Lofte, 65, died Monday morning, July 24, 1995, in the Lutheran Home, Strawberry Point, after a lengthy illness. Arrangements are pending at Jamison-Schmitz Funeral Home, Oelwein.

Jack H. Luther, 79, of Albuquerque, N.M., formerly of Oelwein, died Friday, July 21, 1995, in Presbyterian Hospital, Albuquerque, of emphysema. Services: 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Floral Hills Chapel Funeral Home, rural Oelwein, where friends may call from 7 to 9 tonight. Burial: Floral Hills Memorial Gardens.

Survivors include his wife, Kathryn; four sons, Robert of Albuquerque, N.M., John of Clinton, Bill of Des Moines and Skip of Nashville, Tenn.; three daughters, Connie Serra of Oelwein and Becky Otterbeck and Tammy Oltrogge, both of Cedar Rapids; and a sister, Francis Willett of Waterloo.

POSTVILLE

Brian Dwayne Seegmiller, 16, died Sunday evening, July 23, 1995, from injuries suffered in an automobile accident. Services: 2 p.m. Thursday, St. Paul Lutheran Church, by the Revs. Charles Miller and Jim Dale. Burial: Postville Cemetery. Friends may call after 2 p.m. Wednesday at Schutte Funeral Home.

Survivors include his parents, Mark and Joan Seegmiller; and a brother, Brad, and two sisters, Brooke and Brittany, all at home.

Also surviving are his paternal grandparents, Horace and Dorothy Seegmiller of Decorah; his maternal grandmother, Marjorie Winter of Postville; and his paternal great-grandfather, Orville Seegmiller of Decorah.

He was preceded in death by his maternal grandfather, Calvin Winter.

SIGOURNEY

Ollie Erwin, 85, died Monday, July 24, 1995, in Ottumwa Regional Health Center, Ottumwa, after an extended illness. Services: 10 a.m. Wednesday, Holm Funeral Home, where friends may call after 4 p.m. today. Burial: Garrett Cemetery, Delta.

Survivors include two sons, Keith of Sigourney and Jim of Colona, Ill.; two brothers, Wayne McArtor of North English and Bud McArtor of Cedar Rapids; and a sister, Luella Aldrich of North English.

TRAER

George R. Harrison, 74, died Sunday, July 23, 1995, in Allen Memorial Hospital, Waterloo, after a lengthy illness. Services: 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Overton Funeral Home, Traer, where friends may call from noon to 8 p.m. today and where the family will be present from 5 to 7 tonight. Burial: Buckingham Cemetery, Traer, with military rites.

Survivors include his wife, Rebecca; a daughter, Mary Novak of Traer; and a sister, Violet Riddle of Perris, Calif.

VINTON

Irene B. Jermier, 86, of Charles City, formerly of Vinton, died Monday morning, July 24, 1995, in Floyd County Memorial Hospital, Charles City, after a short illness. Services: 10:30 a.m. Thursday, Fullerton Hage Funeral Home, Charles City, where friends may call from noon to 9 p.m. Wednesday and after 9:30 a.m. Thursday. The Rev. Dennis Niezwaag will officiate. Burial: Sunnyside Memory Gardens, Charles City.

Survivors include her husband, George; two daughters, Dorothy Shahan of Charles City and Kathryn Zanger of Snohomish, Wash.; and three sons, Donald of Stamford, Conn., John of Cedar Falls and Michael of Urbandale.

WASHINGTON

Irma I. German, 85, died Monday, July 24, 1995, in Washington Care Center, Washington, after a lingering illness. Services: 10:30 a.m. Thursday, Jones Funeral Home, where friends may call after 9 a.m. Wednesday and where the family will be present from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Wednesday. The Rev. Brett Best will officiate. Burial: Keota Cemetery, Keota.

Survivors include a son, John Ahrens of Quincy, Ill.; a daughter, Donna Ahrens of Blue Grass; and a sister, Belle Downs of Washington.

WINTHROP

Theron Nash, 83, died Sunday, July 23, 1995, in People's Hospital, Independence, after a lengthy illness. Services: 11 a.m. Friday, Fawcett Funeral Home, where friends may call after 7 p.m. Thursday and prior to services on Friday. Burial: St. Patrick's Cemetery, Winthrop, at a later date. His body was donated to University Hospitals, Iowa City.

Survivors include a son, Delos of Epworth; two daughters, Irene Plein of Dubuque and Joanne Nash of Winthrop; two brothers, Leonard of Kenosha, Wis., and Gerald of Peru, Ill.; and a sister, Dorothy McCall of Durand, Ill.

OTHER DEATHS

Katherine Jo Ziegmann, infant daughter of Marc and Tanya Clinton Ziegmann, Lake City, was stillborn Friday, July 21, 1995, in Stewart Memorial Hospital, Lake City. Services were July 24 at Farber & Ottman Funeral Home, Wall Lake. Burial: Wall Lake Cemetery.

Survivors include her parents; grandparents, Charles and Sharon Ziegmann of Wall Lake and Dennis and Peggy French of Center Point; and great-grandparents, Shirley Unruh of Cedar Rapids, Emil and Evelyn French of Robins and Mae Brookbank of Ida Grove.

SERVICES

Brenda J. Ford: 11 a.m. today, First Presbyterian Church, by the Rev. Larry Hayward. Private interment: Cedar Memorial Park Cemetery, prior to services. Contributions may be made to the Civitan International Research Center, Birmingham, Ala. Arrangements are with Cedar Memorial Funeral Home.

Alvin Haehlen: 1 p.m. today, Murdoch Funeral Home, Marion. Burial: Lafayette Cemetery.

Alvin "Bo" R. Beets: 1 p.m. today, Gospel Tabernacle Church, by the Revs. Paul Beets and Wendel Beets. Friends may call after 11 a.m. at the church.



Board delays action on aide at Catholic school

Marion parents seeking help for quadriplegic son

By Kevin Kane

News correspondent

The Marion Independent school board last night tabled a possibly precedent-setting request that the district station a full-time aide at St. Joseph's Catholic School next year to help a kindergarten student with cerebral palsy.

Board members indicated they wanted to consult with legal counsel before making a decision. The administration had recommended the request be denied and the student encouraged to attend classes within the public Marion Independent District in order to receive the aide's services.

The request was made by John and Leigh Tigan of 1010 11th St., Marion, on behalf of their son, Robert, a quadriplegic who has been attending preschool at St. Joseph's for three days a week with the assistance of volunteer aides.

The Tigans were supported in their request by comments from Craig Pettit, who has a severely disabled daughter attending St. Joseph's with the

assistance of a paraprofessional provided by the Linn-Mar school district.

Sen. Mary Lundby, R-Marion, also spoke on the Tigans' behalf, pledging her support to help the Marion district receive state approval to fund the position or to seek enabling state legislative action.

School administrators estimate the position will cost \$10,000 to \$12,000.

BOARD MEMBERS expressed most concern over means of funding the aide, which would most likely be passed on to taxpayers. Marion Superintendent William Jacobson, who recommended the denial, also expressed concern that accepting the request would "open the door" to other requests from students attending private schools.

John Tigan argued that he and his wife were not asking for anything that Robert would not get in the Marion school district. Rather, they did not want to be deprived choosing a school for their son just because he was in a wheelchair.

He also reminded that board that he and "all the parents at St. Joseph's" are also taxpayers.