



Sunday, March 23, 2008

William R. "Bill" Thode (1937-2008)

CEDAR FALLS — William Rasmus "Bill" Thode, 70, of Cedar Falls, died Monday, March 17, at Allen Hospital, Waterloo.

He was born Dec. 24, 1937, in Cedar Falls, son of Harry and Helen Ackerman Thode. He married Patricia Katz on Aug. 26, 1961, in Cedar Falls.

Mr. Thode was a graduate of Cedar Falls High School and had worked for 26 years at John Deere Waterloo Tractor Works, retiring from the PEC in 1998. He also recently retired as head of the Cedar Falls Cable Commission.

Survived by: his wife; two sons, David (Emily) and Thomas, both of Cedar Falls; three granddaughters, Erin, Jane and Annie Thode, all of Cedar Falls; and a brother, John (Sandy) of Cedar Falls.

Preceded in death by: his parents.

Celebration of Life Service: noon Saturday, April 5, at Dahl-Van Hove-Schoof Funeral Home, Cedar Falls. Memorials: may be directed to the Cedar Bend Humane Society in Waterloo in lieu of flowers.

Condolences can be left at <u>www.DahlFuneralHome.com</u>.

GRUNDY CENTER -- Ben Forker, 70, of Grundy Center, died Thursday, Oct. 25, at home under the care of Cedar Valley Hospice.

He was born May 22, 1937, in Waterloo, son of Clarence Benjamin and Marie Pearl Watters Forker. He married Kay Silver in December 1956 in Cedar Falls; she died in October 1990. He married Rita Praska Fisher on Aug. 5, 1995, in Grundy Center.

Mr. Forker graduated from Cedar Falls High School in 1956. He worked for Ozark Airlines and later became manager of Ozark Airlines in Waterloo. He owned furniture stores in Cedar Falls, Waterloo and Oelwein for many years. He also owned L Beauty Shop in Cedar Falls and Hunter Employment Agency in Waterloo. He later was a senior sales consultant for Paul Brooker Sales of Wichita, Kan.

Survivors include: his wife; a daughter, Tracy (Bret) Pettyjohn of Melcher; a son, Dan of Waterloo; four stepchildren, Teresa Fisher of Brooklyn, N.Y., Carol (John) Freeman of Grundy Center, Amy (Robb) Blanchard of Coggon and Mark Fisher of Corning; four grandchildren and six stepgrandchildren; and a brother, Bill (Sydney) Forker of Grove, Okla.

Services: 10 a.m. Monday at Holy Family Parish, Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Grundy Center, with burial in Finchford Cemetery. Public visitation from 4 to 8 p.m. today at Engelkes-Abels Funeral Home, Grundy Center, with a 4 p.m. prayer vigil and a 7;30 p.m. Knights of Columbus rosary.

Memorials: may be directed to Columbus High School in Waterloo, Cedar Valley Hospice or Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Grundy Center.