

Duane Barratt, 84

Nov. 9, 1924 - Feb. 23, 2009

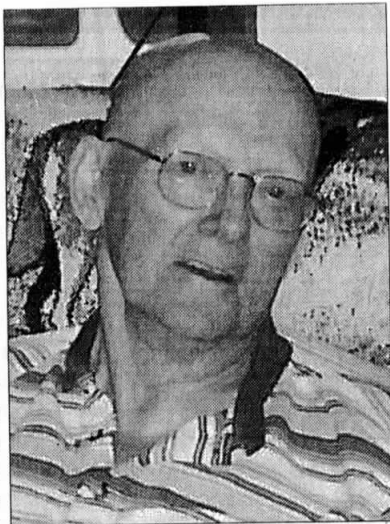
IRWIN — Ronald Duane, youngest son of Bruce and Sarah (Sorenson) Barratt, was born November 9, 1924, on the family farm in Shelby County. He attended Danway Rural School near his home and then graduated from Irwin High School in 1942. He stayed and farmed on the family farm following graduation.

August 20, 1950, Duane was united in marriage with Bernice May Jones at Audubon. One daughter was born to this union. While Bernice taught school, Duane farmed with his oldest brother, Marvin. He also worked part-time at Farmer's Elevator in Irwin. After several years, he started working in television repair and driving

school bus for Irwin-Kirkman Community schools. In 1970, Duane and his family moved from the family farm into Irwin. Duane was very active in the Irwin Chamber of Commerce, served as mayor for a term and as fire chief during his 25 years with the volunteer fire department. He enjoyed the outdoors, especially hunting and fishing. His favorite vacation spot was Lake Belle Taine at Nevis, MN. He and Bernice spent 50 years at that same location. He was also an avid Iowa Hawkeye Basketball and Football fan. Later in life, Duane's advancing rheumatoid arthritis prevented him from pursuing many activities. Most recently his health had deteriorated due to many bouts of pneumonia and congestive heart failure. He died at Myrtue Medical Center in Harlan on Monday, February 23, 2009, at the age of 84 years.

Preceding Duane in death are his parents and three brothers Marvin Barratt, Vernon Barratt and Robert Barratt. He is survived by his wife Bernice Barratt of Irwin; daughter Gail Marie Burke of Bellevue, NE; sister-in-law Fauntella Rutherford of Elgin, OR; nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Funeral services were held Saturday, March 14, 2009, at the United Methodist Church in Irwin, with Pastor Keith Pals officiating. Music was "How Great Thou Art" and "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" with Marie McLaughlin, accompanist. Honorary bearers were Wayne Jensen, Roger Nelson, Mark Jensen, Joel Barratt, Steven Barratt, Brian Barratt, Tony Torres, Kevin Barratt, Willard Oliver, Jr., Roger Barratt, Jennifer Jensen, Karla Jensen, Baila Torres, and Garland Barratt. Interment will be at a later date in the Oak Hill Cemetery in Irwin.



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