

## Delbert Johnson, 77 ✓

*June 21, 1927 - May 12, 2005*

**IDA GROVE** — Delbert Russell Johnson was born June 21, 1927, in rural Defiance, son of Jacob and Mary (Jensen) Johnson. He was baptized in the Lutheran Church in Defiance, Oct. 16, 1927. He grew up in rural Crawford County, where he attended country schools until moving with his family into Denison. He continued in school through the eleventh grade, at which time he enlisted in the United States Navy. His ship, the U.S.S. Delta, was in Tokyo Bay during the signing of the Armistice at the end of World War II. Following his tour of duty, he returned to Iowa where he made his home with his brother, Alvin, in Ida Grove.

Jan. 25, 1948, Delbert married Maryan Perry at her parents' home in Ida Grove, which is where the couple has made their home since 1965. Two children, Robin Diana and Perry Russell, were born to this union. He worked for various area farmers for 19 years. From 1965-1980, he worked for Co-Op Inc. in Ida Grove. He was then employed at Rupp Tire Shop in Ida Grove until his retirement in 1995. Delbert joined the First United Methodist Church in Ida Grove March 22, 1948, and remained a faithful member until his death. He also was a member of the McNamara-Moore Post No. 61 of the American Legion in Ida Grove. He died May 12, 2005, at Horn Memorial Hospital in Ida Grove, at age 77.

Delbert was preceded in death by his parents; two brothers, Walter and Alvin Johnson; and a sister-in-law, Irene Johnson. Survivors include his wife of 57 years, Maryan; two children, Robin (Tom) Grell of Ida Grove and Perry (Donette) Johnson of Piedmont, OK; five grandchildren, Evan and Nathan Grell and Cody, Garrett and Shay Johnson; a sister-in-law, Lucille Johnson of Deloit; nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held May 16, 2005, at the First United Methodist Church in Ida Grove, with The Reverend Russ L. Burnett officiating. Burial was in the Ida Grove Cemetery with military honors conducted by McNamara-Moore Post No. 61 of the American Legion. Christensen-Huffman Funeral Home in Ida Grove, in charge of arrangements.