

Maurice Stigler, 76

June 23, 1922 – June 13, 1999

DES MOINES – Maurice T. "Big Stig" Stigler, 76, of Des Moines, formerly of Maxwell, was born June 23, 1922, in Collins, the son of Harvey and Nellie Wells Granger. His mother died when Maurice was only a year old and his father died when Maurice was 15 years old. He was adopted by his aunt and uncle, George A. and Maude Wells Stigler. He grew up in Slater and graduated from the Slater High School in 1939. He enlisted in the Army in November 1942 and served until February 1946, serving for 19 months in the European Theater of Operations.

He married Dorothy A. Nelson of Slater June 30, 1946. To this union, three sons were born, Thomas Craig, James Kent and Russell Bryon. Dorothy died June 3, 1978. He married Martha Mayr Oct. 9, 1981, at the Little Brown Church in Nashua. He had worked for the Milwaukee Railroad until September 1958 and then went to work for the Iowa Department of Transportation at Ames as a Right of Way Buyer and Project Agent. He retired from the Iowa Department of Transportation July 18, 1985. He was a member of the Maxwell United Methodist Church; a lifetime member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #8174 of Maxwell, having served 3 terms as commander, American Legion Post #249 of Maxwell, Iowa; and the American Right of Way Association. He died June 13, 1999, at his home from complications of a stroke at age 76.

He was preceded in death by his parents; adoptive parents; first wife, Dorothy; two sons, James Kent and Thomas Craig; and two sisters, Iola and Frances. He is survived by his wife, Martha of Des Moines; his son, Russ (Cindy) Stigler of Ames; a granddaughter, Stacy Stigler of Maxwell; three grandsons, Josh Stigler of Maxwell; Luke and Joe Stigler of Ames; two stepdaughters, Patsy Hoogensen (Kenneth) of West Des Moines and Jeanie Mayr Woods of West Des Moines; three grandchildren; five step great grandchildren and other relatives.

Funeral services were held June 16, 1999, at the Bacon Funeral Home with Pastor Neil Cross officiating. Burial was in the Maxwell Community Cemetery with military honors by the American Legion and V.F.W. at Maxwell. Casket bears were Bob Pierce, Dale Pyle, Bob North, Dan Nelson, Rollie Brownell and N.O. McCray.