

In Loving Memory

John Newton McNeilly

Born

December 11, 1925, Jones County, Iowa

Entered into Rest

June 3, 2002, Shenandoah, Iowa

Age

76 years, 5 months, 23 days

John Newton McNeilly, son of Gladys Smith McNeilly and James Robert McNeilly, was born on December 11, 1925, in Jones County, Iowa, and passed away on June 3, 2002, in Shenandoah, Iowa. He was 76 years of age. His early life was spent on the family farm near Center Junction, Iowa. He attended country school and then graduated from Monticello High School in 1944. He served in the Air Corps from 1944-1946. After his discharge from the military, he attended Cornell College in Mount Vernon, Iowa, graduating with a degree in business in 1949. After college, John was employed by United Hybrid Corn Company, in Shenandoah and Des Moines, Iowa. On June 7, 1953, he was married to Doris Holmes of Chariton, Iowa. To this union three daughters Joan, Melinda and Jane were born. The couple returned to Shenandoah in 1956 and John and his brother Maurice became partners in McNeilly Steel Building and Garage Door Service. He continued in business until his retirement in 1998. John was a longtime member of the Shenandoah Presbyterian Church where he sang in the choir for over forty years. He also served as a church elder and on various special committees. Community involvement included: Shenandoah Development Corporation, Shenandoah Chamber of Commerce, Shenandoah Ambassadors, Shenandoah Public Library Board, Southwest Iowa Theater Group, and The Plainsmen Mens' Chorus. John had many interests including music, travel, nature, and most recently recording World War II veterans' stories for the Shenandoah Historical Society. His greatest joy came from spending time with his wife and family.

John was preceded in death by his parents and his sister Jean Balster, of Scotch Grove, Iowa. Survivors include his wife Doris; daughters and sons-in-law Joan and Bill Lewis of Maple Grove, Minnesota, Melinda and Danne Jones of Des Moines, Iowa, and Jane and John Murphy of Overland Park, Kansas; grandchildren Meredith, Benjamin and Andrew Lewis, Jordan and Mallory Jones and Mia and Meg Murphy, a brother Maurice McNeilly of Shenandoah and a sister Ruth Buck of Salem, Illinois, other relatives and many friends.