

### *Obituary*

Ralph "Lyle" Messenger, son of Ralph Lynn Messenger and Hazel Mary (Sindt) Messenger, was born in Council Bluffs, Iowa, on June 22, 1919, and passed away at Shenandoah Medical Center in Shenandoah, Iowa on Wednesday December 17, 2003, at the age of 84.

Shortly after Lyle's birth his parents moved to Elkhorn, Iowa, and lived there until he was 5 when they returned to Woodbine, Iowa. Ralph attended school in Woodbine. He later then worked construction for Booth and Olson Construction. While working construction he met Margaret Fritcher. They were married on December 10, 1941 at Rockport, Missouri. Following their marriage they made their home in Shenandoah. Lyle was an Army veteran of World War II, receiving the Purple Heart during the battle at Okinawa. After returning from the war he worked for George Hanzlick in Essex before going to work at the International Harvester Dealership in Shenandoah for several years. In 1949, he went to work at the Studebaker dealership in Shenandoah. He shortly worked his way up to Shop Foreman. In 1955, Lyle opened his own business becoming owner of Messenger Auto Repair, working on cars, bicycles, lawn mowers and boats. He was a member of the American Legion Post # 88, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the Disabled American Veterans.

Preceding Lyle in death were his parents, his wife Margaret in September 5, 1983, an infant son, Lyle Billie Messenger; infant brother Carl Messenger, brother in laws, Don Curtiss and John Woolridge.

Survivors include his son, Randahl (Randy) Lee Messenger and his wife Cheryl of Shenandoah, Iowa; three sisters, Vera Curtiss of Des Moines, Iowa, Audrey Woolridge of Omaha, Nebraska, Lemoine Hummel and husband Paul of Crane, Missouri; three brothers, Ray Messenger and wife Jessie of Wilcox, Arizona, Merlin Messenger and wife Rhonda of Branson, Missouri, Lloyd Messenger and wife Geri of Woodbine, Iowa; nieces, nephews and many friends.

*Following the services at the cemetery, you are cordially invited to join the family for a time of fellowship and refreshments at the Shenandoah Church of the Nazarene.*

*Services entrusted to  
Hackett-Livingston Funeral Home  
Shenandoah, Iowa  
712-246-2912*