

## **Donald Adams, 64**

*July 9, 1938 - Dec. 7, 2002*

**SHELBY** – Donald Lee Adams was born July 9, 1938, in Mahaska County, the son of John and Irene LaRue Adams. He was raised in that area and graduated from Oskaloosa High School in 1957. After graduation, he worked construction at various locations and joined the United States Navy Seabees in February of 1964. He served his country in Newfoundland, Greece, Puerto Rico and other areas.

He married Elaine Larsen at Walnut, Dec. 4, 1965. To that union were born two boys, John and Thomas. He was a crane operator for Alter Trading Corp. in Council Bluffs, for 27 years. He was a member of First Assembly of God Church in Harlan, serving as an honorary and present member of the church Board of Directors. He was a member of the Shelby Fire Department and obtained his First Responder Certificate in May of 1989. Don and Elaine were members of the Christian Motorcyclist Association, the Gold Wing Touring Association and Retreads of Iowa Motorcycle Club. While motorcycling all over the United States and Canada, they've made many lasting friendships and had the opportunity to travel to Nicaragua in October of 1994 and the Ride to the Gap to Washington, D.C. in October of 1997. He died at his home in Shelby, Dec. 7, 2002, from liver and pancreatic cancer, at age 64 years, four months and 28 days.

Don is preceded in death by his father, John, and his stepfather, Loren Adams. He is survived by his wife, Elaine of Shelby; his two sons, John of Concord, CA and Thomas (Melinda) of Laramie, WY; his mother, Irene Adams of Oskaloosa; his five sisters, Donna (Junior) Meyers of Colona, IL; Janice (Ron) Kalko of Eddyville; DeAnn (Jim) Harsh of Ankeny; Twyla (Benny) Pool of Ava, MO; and Dixie (James) Miller of Phoenix, AZ; and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Dec. 10, 2002, at the First Assembly of God Church with Revs. Al Hazelton, Jim Burnette, Jeff Kraft, Bob Thompson, Gary Magill and Dan Fitzpatrick officiating. Burial was in the Shelby Cemetery. Honorary casket bearers were David Snyder and the Alter Co. employees, Christian Motorcyclist Assn. members and Gold Wing Touring Assn. members. Casket bearers were Doug Rice, Scott Maguire, Gary Hanson, Cary Klatt, Ed Adams, Ron Holm, Harold (Herk) Johnson and Mark Jensen. Knutson Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.