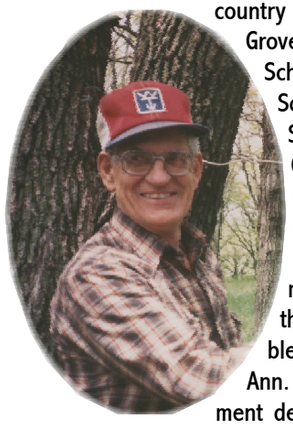
Don Crawford, age 78, of Schaller, Iowa, died April 10, 2008 at St. Luke Regional Medical Center in Sioux City, Iowa.

Donald Melvin Crawford was born June 29, 1929 in Battle Creek, Iowa, the son of Forrest and Anna (Hayward) Crawford. He was educated at a country school near Battle Creek, then in the Ida Grove schools before his family moved to Schaller. Don graduated from Schaller High School in 1946. Don joined the United States Army and served during the Korean Conflict. A lifelong patriot, Don was a member of the Schaller Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4706.



On June 12, 1955, Don was united in marriage to Margaret Pyle at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Schaller. The couple was blessed with three children: Lynn, Ellen and Ann. Don owned and operated a farm implement dealership in Schaller for many years, until his retirement in 1992. He and Margaret would have been married for 53 years this coming June.

Don was actively involved in community affairs in Schaller. He served on the Schaller City Council, was a member of the Schaller Chamber of Commerce and served on the Schaller Volunteer Fire Department. He was also a member of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Schaller.

Don loved being outside and invested a great deal of time in pursuits that let him spend time in the great outdoors. He enjoyed his annual deer hunt and was a collector of guns. Don also had a passion for classic cars and loved to polish up those he owned. He was a history buff who made a point to never stop learning; in his later years he was proud to master operating computers. Don also enjoyed camping and liked to take his family camping in the western United States. Whether on a camping trip or at home, spending time with his family and friends was always a priority and a joy for Don. A kind and gentle man, he will be dearly missed by all those who knew and loved him.

Left to cherish his memory are his wife, Margaret, of Schaller; his daughters: Lynn Crawford of Fort Morgan, Colorado; Ellen and husband, Brian Buchholtz and Ann Crawford, all of Prescott, Arizona; his grandchildren: Nicholas and Matthew Buchholtz of Tempe, Arizona and Paige and Reid Price of Prescott, Arizona; his sister Joyce Olbertz of Storm Lake, Iowa; sister- and brother-in-law Jan and Tom Watson of Schaller; sister-in-law Cheri Haack of Schaller; many nieces and nephews and countless friends.

Don was preceded in death by his parents; his brother, Floyd; and two sisters: Annabelle Irvin and Beth Eyler.

Dear Dad,

Thank you for being our dad. There aren't prouder or luckier daughters on earth.

Thank you for our childhoods…
for kitties, puppies, a pony, and needing a lunch in the field,
for camping trips: cold tents, campfires, and your patience
while we picked out the perfect turquoise rings,
for fixing our bikes and cars, and jewelry tied in knots,
for motorcycle rides, snowmobile rides, and trips around
the block in the jeep,
for your advice and insight,
for college educations and a love of learning.

And thank you most for the love in our family…
for calling mom "mommy" and asking her to sit in your
chair with you,
for loving each of us for who we are,
for hugs and more things than we really needed,
for teaching us what is important.

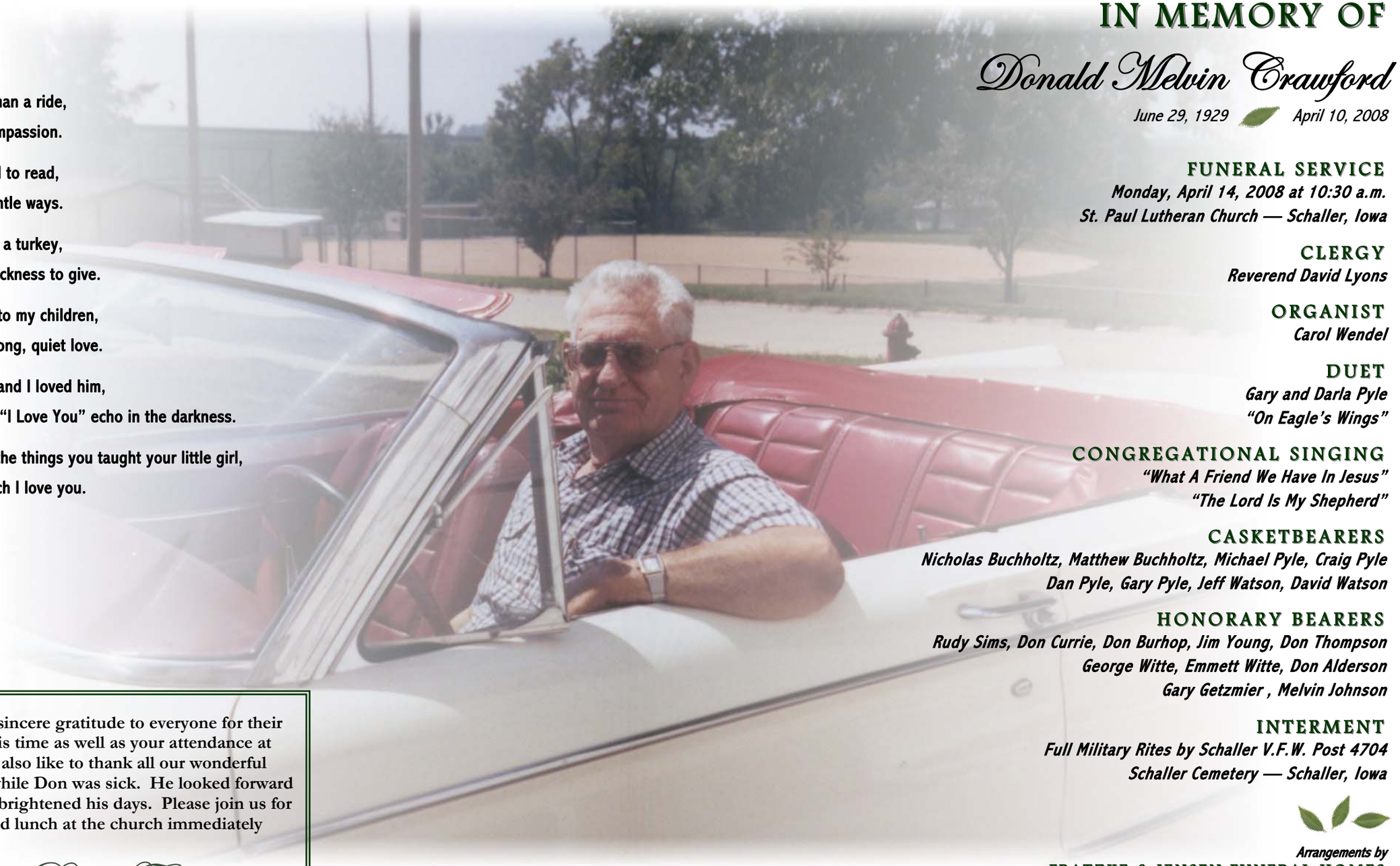
Thank you, Dad.

We love you,
Lynn, Ellen and Ann

A Celebration of Life

Donald Melvin Crawford

1929 2008



Yesterday

Yesterday I gave a cold man a ride,
And I thought of your compassion.

Yesterday I taught a child to read,
And I thought of your gentle ways.

Yesterday I gave a family a turkey,
And I thought of your quickness to give.

Yesterday I showed love to my children,
And I thought of your strong, quiet love.

Yesterday I told my husband I loved him,
And I thought of hearing "I Love You" echo in the darkness.

Yesterday I reflected on the things you taught your little girl,
And I thought of how much I love you.

Love,
Ellen
06-29-00

We wish to extend our sincere gratitude to everyone for their love and kindness at this time as well as your attendance at this service. We would also like to thank all our wonderful friends for their visits while Don was sick. He looked forward to seeing you, and you brightened his days. Please join us for at time of fellowship and lunch at the church immediately following the burial.

Don's Family

IN MEMORY OF

Donald Melvin Crawford

June 29, 1929 — *April 10, 2008*

FUNERAL SERVICE
Monday, April 14, 2008 at 10:30 a.m.
St. Paul Lutheran Church — Schaller, Iowa

CLERGY
Reverend David Lyons

ORGANIST
Carol Wendel

DUET
Gary and Darla Pyle
"On Eagle's Wings"

CONGREGATIONAL SINGING
"What A Friend We Have In Jesus"
"The Lord Is My Shepherd"

CASKETBEARERS
Nicholas Buchholtz, Matthew Buchholtz, Michael Pyle, Craig Pyle
Dan Pyle, Gary Pyle, Jeff Watson, David Watson

HONORARY BEARERS
Rudy Sims, Don Currie, Don Burhop, Jim Young, Don Thompson
George Witte, Emmett Witte, Don Alderson
Gary Getzmier , Melvin Johnson

INTERMENT
Full Military Rites by Schaller V.F.W. Post 4704
Schaller Cemetery — Schaller, Iowa

Arrangements by
FRATZKE & JENSEN FUNERAL HOMES
www.fratzkejensen.com
Newell · Storm Lake · Schaller