



## Sam Thongvanh

June 2, 1920 - June 8, 2013

Sam Thongvanh, age 93, of Storm Lake, Iowa died June 8, 2013 at Mercy Medical Center in Sioux City, Iowa. Sam Thongvanh was born June 2, 1920 in Village Mouang Khiang, Mouang Mouai provincial Sonla Vietnam. He was the son of Sam Thongvanh Sr. and Song Thongvanh. Sam was united in marriage to Choy Thongvanh in 1947. Together, they had nine children. Four boys and five girls. As a family, they lived in Vietnam (Dien Vien Phu Mouang Thang). They fled as a family to a refugee in Hanoi. Earlier, Sam served in French Military Battalion #1 of Taidam as a Commando. Since the French departed for the Communist Party in Dien Vien Phu, they then had to flee to Laos in 1955, where they lived in the Capital of Laos Vientiane in a Village Ely. They lived here for 20 years. The Lao government changed the political action and the administration for the hot spot. His family experienced a hard time while living there so then they had to escape to Thailand Freedom County in 1976 in NongKhai Camp Refugee for about six years. In 1982, they came to the United States of American, the land of freedom and opportunity. Sam was a very preoccupied person. He enjoyed socializing with family and friends. He loved his children, grandchildren and great grandchildren and taught them the right way and the good discipline for them. We are all remembered of our fathers and grandfathers. From now on we will miss him forever. Those left to cherish his memory include his wife, Choy Thongvanh of Storm Lake, Iowa; children: Khamfeung Thongvanh of Storm Lake, Iowa; Souk (Khai) Thongvanh of Storm Lake, Iowa; Houg (Khamlo) Khounlo of Storm Lake,

Iowa; Viengkeo (Bounrong) Synarong of Storm Lake, Iowa; Khamphiou Lonleauglith of Ontario, Canada; Toune (Curtis) Kemp of Bloomington, Minnesota; Khamla Baccam of Spencer, Iowa; 25 grandchildren; 27 great grandchildren; brothers: Eun Thongvanh, Teun Thongvanh, See Thongvanh; extended family and friends. Sam was preceded in death by his children: Khamkeung and Barry Thongvanh and one granddaughter, Keo Gail Khounlo.