



John D. Morris, age 91, of Washington died surrounded by his family on Tuesday, December 18, 2007, at Washington County Hospital following a brief decline in health.

Celebration of Life services will be held at a later date. Interment will take place at the Harrison Cemetery in rural Wapello at a later date. In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to Camp Wyoming. Online condolences may be sent for John's family through the Web at www.jonesfh.com.

John was born on February 12, 1916, in Wapello, Iowa, the son of Walter and Lola (Wiederrecht) Morris. He graduated from Wapello High School and Iowa State University. He served in the United States Navy during World War II. John was united in marriage to Ruth E. Howie on July 5, 1939, in Monticello, Iowa.

He spent his life as an agriculturist, writer, speaker, photographer, and traveler. John served on the Iowa State University Extension Service, Soil Conservation Service of the US Department of Agriculture, and operated his own farms. John served on many advisory positions, including at the presidential and cabinet level in the United States and abroad, where he gained experience in most areas of the world. John gave 15 young Japanese men each one year of his life to teach them agricultural and management skills on his farm when Japan was a third world country. He has chaired many agricultural and commodity organizations, as well as the Iowa Master Farmers, Iowa Farm Business Association, and the Hog Cholera Eradication Committee. John was a member of the United Presbyterian Church where he served as an elder. He chaired the founding board of directors of Camp Wyoming. John served on many Presbytery and Synod groups, especially the food and hunger mission, in the States and abroad. John has written and spoken extensively, promoted education, but has especially appreciated his family and friends.

John is survived by his wife, Ruth E. Morris of Washington; son, David L. and wife, Carol Ann Morris of Story City, Iowa; daughter, Marilyn J. Max and husband, George of Hickory, North Carolina; 5 grandchildren, Laura Max and husband, Todd Houge, Sara and husband, Brian Ceresa, David and wife, Karla Max, Chad Morris, and Alex Morris; 4 great-grandchildren; and sister, Marjorie Jack.

He was preceded in death by his parents and 2 brothers, Richard and Robert.