



Gary obtained his nursing degree during his time in the Army and worked as a nurse at the Burlington Care Center, Great River for 12 years and at the Des Moines County Jail for four years, before retiring.

He joined the U.S. Army at the age of 17, and served his country from November 12, 1968 until March 31, 1989.

He was a member of Schaffer's Golf Club and enjoyed spending time there playing golf. He also enjoyed collecting coins, pocket watches, and going to auctions. He loved the Beatles, Oakland Raiders, and raising Beagles with his wife. He loved his dogs, Curly, Precious, Lucy, Cookie and Cupcake. He had a great sense of humor and was always joking around.

Survivors include his wife, Christine; two daughters, Allison (Khary) Clark of Denver, CO, and Amber Cheeley of Burlington; two sons, Billy (Jessica) Cheeley of Des Moines, and Gary C. Cheeley of Burlington; four grandchildren, Ayanna Clark, Khalil Clark, Kaeleb Clark, and Reese Cheeley; one sister, Lisa (Mick) Siegel of Hinsdale, IL; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Visitation will be from noon until 5:00 PM with the family to receive friends from 3:00 PM until 5:00 PM Sunday, March 4, 2018 at Prugh~Thielen Funeral Home.

The funeral service for Mr. Cheeley will be 10:00 AM Monday, March 5, 2018, at Prugh~Thielen Funeral Home with Chaplain Randy Gearhart officiating. A time of food and fellowship will be held in the community room at Prugh~Thielen Funeral Home following the service. Burial will be in Keokuk National Cemetery.

Memorials have been established for the American Cancer Society and Great River Hospice House.