



The signs tell it all. In last Sunday's parade, a pickup was pulling a sailboat. Gernhart's birthday parade (it was a little early, his birthday is actually Nov. 20) was well attended.

1975

Jim Gernhart Has "Another Celebration"

It all started on June 3, 1951, when Jim Gernhart of Burlington startled the entire world by having his own funeral — before he had died!

Since that time, Jim has received world wide publicity about his feat, and in all probability, "it" reached its climax Sunday, Sept. 11, when Jim had another celebration.

"It" was actually a birthday celebration — Jim had reached 100 years of age, as had Colorado this year. Jim fudged a little; his 100th birthday is not until Nov. 20. He decided to have an early celebration when last year the

area experienced a severe blizzard on his birthday and there was not the normal fanfare that Jim had grown accustomed to.

People of the area responded (and we think, in all probability with tongue in cheek) by giving Gernhart one of the longest parades in Burlington's history.

An estimated crowd of 1,000 watched the parade go by — and at the tail end of the parade was the guest of honor — Jim Gernhart, the "Living Corpse of Burlington."

Jim was 74-years-old when he had his own funeral in June of

1951. He has always said he would live to be at least 100 years old.

He may be right! Nov. 20 will give the answer.

At any rate, "Happy Early Birthday, Jim!"