Viola Adkins, 99


Her funeral service will be held at 10:30 a.m., Wednesday, Feb. 5, at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell. Friends may call at the Smith Funeral Home beginning at 12 noon on Tuesday and the family will be present from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Tuesday.

Casket bearers will be Mark, Mike and Toby Adkins, Gary Beyer, Kurt Elliott and Daryl Moffitt.

Honorary bearers will be Tim Adkins, Greg Floyd, Robert and Sheldon Lewis, Chris, David and Steve Moffitt. Burial will be in the West Liberty Cemetery near Searboro.

Viola was born May 7, 1903, on the family farm in rural Jasper County to James and Juella Adams Stewart. She attended rural school in the Bethel area and graduated from Grinnell High School with the Class of 1922. She received her normal training in Cedar Falls.

On May 12, 1923, she was married to Granville LeRoy Adkins in Eldora. The couple lived in Grinnell, where she was a homemaker and Mr. Adkins operated the Deep Rock Service Station. Later, the family farmed near Newburg and Rock Creek before moving to Searboro to farm in 1940. She moved to Grinnell in 1991 and she has resided at the Mayflower Home since 1996. She was a member of the Searboro Friends Church and the Rebekah Lodge and enjoyed gardening, cooking and crocheting.

Survivors include two daughters, Geraldine Beyer of Grinnell and Marilyn Elliott of Winter Springs, Fla.; five sons, Charles Adkins of Grinnell, Donald Adkins of Darlington, Mo., Russell Adkins of Searboro; Richard Adkins of Grinnell, Ark., and Bruce Adkins of Cedar Falls; 29 grandchildren; 56 great-grandchildren and five great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband; three daughters, Jeanne Lewis, Jane Moffitt and Betty Lou Adkins; one grandson; one granddaughter; one great-grandson; four brothers, Loren, Ben, George and Paul Stewart; and three sisters, Gertie Griffith, Bessie Shope and Minnie Jay.

Memorials may be directed to the Mayflower Home Health Care Center or to Grinnell Regional Hospice.