

H.R. - MARCH 24, 2003

Nellie Van Almkerk



Nellie Van Almkerk, 91, of Grinnell died Wednesday, March 19, of congestive heart failure at Grinnell Regional Medical Center.

A funeral service was held Saturday, March 22, at Smith Funeral Home with the Rev. Todd Follette, pastor of First Friends Church, Grinnell, and Keith Briggs, retired pastor of the church, officiating. Organist was Kathleen McCune and vocal music was by Keith Briggs. Pall bearers were Duane Arment, George and Paul Christianson, Roger Copper Jr. and Dennis and Don Fleener. Honorary bearers were Kenny and Ryan Cooper and Bobby Strand. Burial was in Hazelwood Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to First Friends Church.

She was born April 27, 1911, in Poweshiek County, the daughter of Arthur and Telatha Reeves Fleener. She was raised on farms in Mahaska and Poweshiek Counties and educated in the Grinnell school district. She moved to southern California in 1938, then returned to the Grinnell area in 1945. She farmed and later was employed in the food service department at Grinnell College. She moved to Rochester, N. Y., in 1968 where she was married to Leonard J. Van Almkerk on May 4, 1968. She was employed at DeRitters Advertising in Rochester for several years, returning to Grinnell in 1987. She was a member of First Friends Church, Rebekah Lodge, Pythian Sisters, Eagles Auxiliary and the M & M Club.

She is survived by one daughter, Donna Phillips, of Phoenix, Ariz.; one son Roger Cooper of Charlotte, N.C.; one brother, Ralph Fleener of Grinnell; seven grandchildren and eight grand-children. She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, one daughter, Donna Stice, three sisters, Viola Watkins, Vera Christianson and Veda Hyde; two brothers, Woodrow and Everton Fleener, and three grandchil- dren.

H.A. MARCH 20, 2003

Nellie Van Almkerk

Nellie Van Almkerk, 91, of Grinnell, died of heart failure Wednesday, March 19, at Grinnell Regional Medical Center.

A funeral service will be held Saturday, March 22 at 10:30 a.m. at Smith Funeral Home with the Rev. Todd Follette of First Friends Church officiating. Burial will follow at Hazelwood Cemetery. Visitation will be from noon to 9 p.m. Friday with family members present from 6 to 8 p.m.

Memorials may be made to the Nellie Van Almkerk Memorial Fund.