She was born on Dec. 27, 1929, to Frank and Jennetta Van Iperen Randell near Cedar, Iowa. She was raised on the family farm and attended rural school. She graduated from Cedar High School with the Class of 1947.

On March 28, 1948, she was married to Robert L. Ashman in Cedar and to this union was born two children, Randell and Leigh Ann. The couple moved to Grinnell and she worked as a loan coordinator for students in the treasurer's office at Grinnell College. After she and Robert were divorced she continued to make her home in Grinnell, where she met Bo Battey. They were married on April 4, 1980. They enjoyed their combined families and wintering in Scottsdale, Arizona.

She was a member of the Grinnell United Methodist Church and United Methodist Women. She was also a member of P.E.O. Chapter JB; Chapter AU; T.T.T.; Drummond Club, Priscilla Club, Historical and Literary Club; Senior Chamber of Commerce and the Two O'Clock Club in Cedar. She enjoyed playing the piano; was involved in the Grinnell Community Theatre, and played for many weddings and funerals. She also enjoyed accompanying soloists at various musical events in the community.

She is survived by her daughter, Leigh Ann Meacham of Grinnell; her step children; Bill Battey of Des Moines, Karen Lipcamon of Cedar Rapids; and Howard Battey of Andalusia, Ala.; two grandchildren; three step grandchildren; three great grandchildren; and two step great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband; her son, Randell Lee Ashman; one brother, Wesley Randell; one sister, Vivian Meyer; and her foster brother, Bill Keenan.

Betty Ann Battey, 80, of Grinnell died on Monday, Jan. 4, 2010, at Mercy Medical Center in Des Moines.

A funeral service will be held at 10:30 a.m., Friday, Jan. 8, at the United Methodist Church in Grinnell with the Rev. Len Eberhart, pastor of the church, officiating. Music will be provided by Kathleen Helfner, Chad Meacham and Angela Randall Gwin. Casket bearers will be members of her family. Interment will be held in the spring at Hazelwood Cemetery in Grinnell.

The Betty Ann Battey Memorial Fund has been established and donations may be sent in care of Leigh Ann Meacham, 1407 Sixth Avenue, Grinnell, Iowa 50112.

Friends may call at Smith Funeral Home beginning at noon on Thursday with her family present from 3 to 6 p.m.