On July 27, 1947, she married Donald Pederson in Waterloo, and the couple lived in Amos and Greenfield prior to moving to Grinnell in 1952. She was a school teacher and guidance counselor in the Grinnell-Newburg School District for 30 years, retiring in 1988. Audrey was a member of the Jessup Presbyterian Church and later Grinnell United Methodist Church. She was a member of P.E.O., Pi Rho Lambda, and Chester Royal Grange, where she was a 50-year member and honored with her husband Don as National Grange Young Couple of 1959. She was also a member of the Farm Bureau, Retired School Personnel Association of Grinnell, Republican Party, Eastern Star, Hospital Auxiliary, Grinnell Country Club, and several bridge groups.

Audrey loved being with her family. She enjoyed playing bridge, dancing, square dancing, sewing, and visiting with former students and colleagues. She had traveled to Japan, Austria, France, Denmark, all 50 U.S. states, and all provinces of Canada. She attended Elder Hostels for many years in the Canadian Maritime Provinces. She was a lifelong student.

Survivors include her husband, Donald of Grinnell; four children, Kirsten Fisher of Manassas, Va., Candace Carmichael of Iowa City, Eric Pederson of Grinnell, and Roald Pederson of Roseville, Calif.; two sisters, Betty Reeves of Jacksonville, Fla., and Ida Bell Greiner of Fairbanks, Alaska; nine grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents.

Audrey Pederson

Audrey Pederson, 83, of Grinnell died Sept. 28, 2009, at the Mayflower Community Health Care Center in Grinnell.

Funeral services were held Saturday, Oct. 3, at the Grinnell United Methodist Church with the Rev. Len Eberhart, pastor of the church and Rev. Orlan Mitchell, retired, officiating. Pallbearers were Tim and Reed Fisher, Greg and Emmett Carmichael, and Christopher and Samuel Pederson. Honorary bearers will be Ray Allen Fisher, Beret Spera, Gemma Carmichael, and Alexandra and Jordan Pederson. Organist will be Kathleen Heffner, and bagpiper will be David Cloer. Burial was in Hazeldown Cemetery in Grinnell.

Memorial contributions may be directed towards the Grinnell-Newburg School District Dollars for Scholars.

Audrey was born June 28, 1926, in Jessup, Iowa, the daughter of John and Olive Bell May. She was raised in Jessup and was a 1944 graduate of Jessup High School. She attended Iowa State Teachers College in Cedar Falls, Iowa State University, and received a BA degree from William Penn College. She later received a MA degree from Drake University.