Doris Thorson

Doris Thorson, 87, of Grinnell died Saturday, Oct. 9, 2010, at her home near Grinnell.

A celebration of life service was held Thursday, Oct. 14, at First Presbyterian Church in Grinnell with the Rev. Kirsten Klepfer officiating. Interment was in Hazelwood Cemetery.

Memorials may be designated to the Doris J. Thorson Memorial Fund, PO Box 368, Grinnell IA 50112 to benefit organizations of the family’s choice. Memories and condolences may be shared with her family at www.smith.com.

She was born, the eldest of 12 children, to Andrew Burton and Mae Anderson Paul on Dec. 30, 1922, in Kellogg. She graduated from Newton High School with the class of 1940. She then attended Iowa State Teachers College in Cedar Falls, now the University of Northern Iowa. Following her education she taught at Rock Creek, Mariposa and McCord rural schools; Emerson Hough Elementary School in Newton and Davis Elementary School in Grinnell.

On Aug. 1, 1953, she was united in marriage with Ernest Iver Thorson at the United Methodist Church in Newton. The couple resided and farmed near Grinnell and she was a homemaker. She was active in 4-H and the family attended the Iowa State Fair every year.

She is survived by her daughter and sons, Dorene Thorson of Altoona, Dean Thorson of Grayslake, Ill., and Richard Thorson of Grinnell; three grandchildren; her brothers and sisters, Norman Paul of Hood River, Ore., Helen Hoffman of Grundy Center, Carol Skoog of Altoona, Dale Paul of Portland, Ore., Dennis Paul of Greeley, Colo., James Paul of Newton, Curtis Paul of Swe made and Keith Paul of Fenton, Mo. She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband and her siblings, Eugene, Phyllis and Wayne.

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