

Mildred Ellen Olson Sampson



Mildred Ellen Olson Sampson, 97, of Grinnell, died June 20, 2012, at the Mayflower Community Health Care Center in Grinnell.

Memorial services are scheduled for 10:30 a.m. Thursday, June 28, at the Grinnell First Baptist Church with Pastor Linda Bergeon, officiating. Organist will be Denise Baustian and vocalist, Milton Severe. Honorary bearers will be Kirk and Greg Sampson, Megan Buske and Heather Johannsen. A private family burial will be in Hazelwood Cemetery in Grinnell.

Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service at the Grinnell First Baptist Church.

Memorial contributions may be directed to the Mayflower Community.

Mildred was born Oct. 29, 1914, on a farm near Grinnell, to John C. and Ellen Enerson Olson. She graduated from Grinnell High School in 1933.

On Aug. 10, 1935, she married Lynn G. Sampson. They moved to Sioux City, and then Barrington, Ill., before moving back to Grinnell in 1948. While in Grinnell she was an office manager at Grinnell General Hospital for 32 years, retiring in 1982.

She helped care for her mother until her death in 1980, while also caring for her sister, Fern. She became a taxi driver for many who were unable to go out to eat, or get to church, or go to club, and also enjoyed lunch, dominoes and card games with friends.

She was a long-time member of the First Baptist Church, the Helpful Workers Club and Harmony Aid. For many years, she was an avid Iowa Hawkeye fan who enjoyed keeping game stats of the Iowa basketball team while never missing a televised game. The corner of Fourth and East was known for her colorful flowers. Mildred was also dedicated to her family.

In November of 2006 she moved to Beebe Hall at the Mayflower Community and in September of 2010, she moved into the Mayflower Health Care Center.

She is survived by two sons; John of Grinnell and Bob of West Des Moines; four grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents; three sisters, Annetta Latcham, Evelyn Heisel and Fern Olson; two brothers, Arthur "Bobby" and Raymond Olson; one son, Lynn Sampson, Jr., and one grandson.

PCCR 6-27-2012

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On Aug. 10, 1935, she was married to Lynn G. Sampson. They moved to Sioux City, and then Barrington, Ill., before moving back to Grinnell in 1948. While in Grinnell she was an office manager at Grinnell General Hospital for 32 years, retiring in 1982. She was a well respected and dedicated employee.

There was not a more loving daughter or sister than Mildred Sampson. She helped care for her mother until her death in 1980, all the while caring for her sister, Fern. And it wasn't just family Mildred cared for, she lovingly became the taxi driver for many who were unable to go out to eat, or get to church, or go to club. She was a good friend and enjoyed the friendship of many. Several in her group would go out to eat several times a week for lunch and then a hot domino or card game would follow. She was always on the go.

Mildred was a dedicated and long-time member of the First Baptist Church, the Helpful Workers Club and Harmony Aid. She was also one of those 'good cooks' at First Baptist who provided casseroles, cakes and some unforgettable apple pies for their pot luck dinners. For many years she was an avid Iowa Hawkeye fan and enjoyed keeping game stats of the Iowa basketball team while never missing a televised game.

One thing you always noticed at the corner of 4th & East Street, were all the colorful flowers. Mostly tulips and geraniums but Mildred loved to see color through the spring and fall so she always had lots of variety. When she still lived at home, you would often see her out pulling weeds or working in the garden.

Mildred was also dedicated to her family. The grandkids all have special memories of their time at Grandma Sampson's, of the tricks they played and the things they got away with. Christmas Eve was the big family gathering at her house and everyone was invited—family and friends. The house was packed with people and food and gifts and then everyone would walk to church for the Christmas Eve Service.

In November of 2006, Mildred moved to Beebe Hall at the Mayflower Community and in September of 2010, she moved into the Mayflower Health Care Center.

She is survived by two sons, John (Carole) of Grinnell and Bob (Sally) of West Des Moines; four grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents; three sisters, Annetta Latcham, Evelyn Heisel and Fern Olson; two brothers, Arthur "Bobby" and Raymond Olson; one son, Lynn Sampson, Jr.; and one grandson, Jeff Sampson.