Bernice Audas

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Bernice Audas, 79, of Grinnell and formerly of Newton, died December 11, 2012, at Skiff Medical Center in Newton.

Funeral services are scheduled for 11:00 a.m. Friday, December 14, at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell with Pastor Keith Morrison, Grinnell Regional Hospice Chaplain, officiating. Pallbearers will be Tony Lee Audas and Tony Lee Audas, Jr., Dave Burch, Nolan Cobb, Tim Cottrell and Danny Haney, Jr. Honorary bearers will be Brandon Dewes, Austin Haney, Walter Ponce II and Byron Sharp. Burial will be in the Brooklyn Memorial Cemetery, Brooklyn, Iowa.

Visitation with the family present will be held one hour (10:00 to 11:00) prior to the funeral service at the funeral home.

Memorial contributions may be directed to Grinnell Regional Hospice.

Bernice was born April 29, 1933, in Grinnell, the daughter of Perry Orville and Alta Marita Vaughn Duncan. She was raised in Grinnell and was a 1951 graduate of Grinnell High School.

She was united in marriage to Perry Lee Bailey in 1951 and the couple lived in Grinnell. They were divorced a few years later and she was united in marriage to Eldon Frank Audas on July 11, 1955, in Union-ville, Missouri. The couple lived in several communities in Iowa including Grinnell, Marshalltown, Newton and Fort Dodge before moving to the Los Angeles area in 1970. For many years, she worked as a bookkeeper for several businesses in both Iowa and California. She retired in 1987 and returned to Newton in 1992. Most recently she returned to Grinnell where she was cared for by her son, Steve.

Bernice loved camping with her family and enjoyed family vacations and traveling with her husband. Her hobbies included crocheting, solving crossword puzzles and flower gardening. She loved fishing in the Salton Sea in Southern California. She was a religious person and held a strong faith.

Cheryl Lynne Hughes of Newton and Bud Audas of Des Moines; four stepchildren, Doris Audas-Eames of Marshalltown, Norma Lynch of Melbourne, Marry Retter of Gilman and Dick Audas of Omaha; one sister, Amanda Cottrell of Grinnell; one brother, Kenneth Duncan of Rapid City, South Dakota; five grandchildren, Kristine Cobb, Danny Haney, Jr., Mindie Woodard, Stephanie Audas-Jones and Amanda Audas-Wiggington; 16 step-grandchildren; and many great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband in 2009; two brothers, Cleveland and Charles Duncan; and one sister, Anne Cogley.

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