Cornelia Johnson



Cornella Johnson, 100, of Grinnell, died Thursday, May 30, 2013, at St. Francis Manor in Grinnell.

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A funeral service was held Monday, June 3, her 101st birthday, at Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell with the Rev. Todd Follette, pastor of the First Friends Church in Grinnell, officiating. Pianist was Kara Boothroyd and vocalist was Cindy Willemsen. Casket bearers were members of her family. Interment was at the West Liberty Cemetery near Searsboro.

Should friends desire memorials may be directed to St. Francis Manor or to the First Friends Church and sent in care of Smith Funeral Home, P.O. Box 368, Grinnell, Iowa 50112.

Cornelia was born on June 3, 1912, on the family farm near Lynnville to Everet and Alice Dykens Willemsen. She was raised on the family farm and attended rural school. Following her education she assisted her family with household duties and farm work. During World War II she worked for the One Minute Washing Machine Company and the Defense Ammunition Company.

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CORNELIA WILLEMSEN JOHNSON

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Cornelia was born June 3, 1912, on the family farm near Lynnville, to Re CORd 6-6-2013 On Nov. 21, 1952, she married Donald L. Johnson at West Liberty Church near Searsboro. The couple operated a grain and livestock farm near Searsboro. In 1970, the couple left the farm and moved to Grinnell. She has resided at Seeland Park for the past few years.

She was a member of the Friends Church and she enjoyed sewing, crocheting and socializing with family and friends.

She is survived by her sister, Ella M. Van Helten of Mitchellville, and several nieces and nephews.

Cornelia was preceded in death by her husband; her parents; three brothers, John, Fred and Everett Willemsen; and one sister, Margaret Den Hartog.

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