Cremation has taken place and a family visitation will be held at the Wallace Family Funeral Home on Friday, May 1, from 4 to 6 p.m. Immediately following the family will gather and celebrate her life at Fore Seasons Golf Practice Center, 6232 Hwy. S74 South, Newton.

The family requests memorials be mailed to the American Cancer Society Hope Lodge—Iowa City, 750 Hawkins Drive, Iowa City, IA 52246 (please include Hope Cockerton on the memo line). Memorials may also be left at Wallace Family Funeral Home and Crematory, Attn: Cockerton Family, for a later designation.

Hope was born on Aug. 8, 1939, in Kellogg, the daughter of Charles and Mary DeHart Hotchin. She was born together with brother Stephen, and the two were always known as the Hotchin Twins — and, along with the birth of a family friend Gayle Veber born later that same day, the Kellogg Triplets.

She grew up in Kellogg and married Robert Joseph Cockerton on June 28, 1956, at the Newton Christian Church. They began their lives together in California where Bob was serving in the US Navy. Returning to Jasper County and settling in Newton, Bob and Hope raised three children.

Hope spent many years balancing family and working outside the home, then as the family grew was able to be a full-time homemaker. She had attended Kellogg schools prior to moving to California. While raising her family, she returned to the classroom through the Newton Schools Adult Education Program graduating in 1971 with her diploma in hand.

Bowling was a favorite activity of Hope's, and she spent many years on the Tuesday morning Newton Welcome Wagon League and later the Thursday evening Women’s Evening League. In 1978 she won the Women’s Jasper County District Tournament.

She also enjoyed gardening, reading, crossword puzzles, and time with family and friends and the farm she shared with Bob for 35 years.

She is survived by her husband of nearly 59 years, Robert ‘Bob’ Cockerton; daughters Theresa Cockerton of Newton and Julie Ostdiek, of St. Joseph, Mich., and son, Kirk Cockerton, of Newton; 12 grandchildren; her brother David Hotchin of Seattle, Wash.; and sister, Pat Pierce of Grinnell.

She was preceded in death by her parents, and siblings Neil, Dennis, Diane and Stephen.