Memorials may be directed to the Grace Elaine Stephenson Memorial Fund and sent in care of the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell, PO Box 368, Grinnell, Iowa 50112. Memories and condolences may be shared with the family online at www.smithfh.com.

Grace Elaine Stephenson was born on Aug. 27, 1937, south of Searsboro to Walter and Alice Rivers Wittrup. She attended and graduated from Grinnell High School. Grace worked as a secretary for VanWyk Freight Lines.

On May 28, 1955, she was united in marriage with Myrl Stephenson in Grinnell and they had four children. The family moved to Minnesota for a short period of time and returned to Grinnell and later to Montezuma. Myrl died on April 15, 1995, and later that year Grace moved to back Grinnell. She worked as a home health aid and tended the elderly. During holidays, she always made plates for people and delivered them before her family enjoyed the meal. She was an excellent cook and baker. Myrl and Grace brought their goods to the farmer’s market. She collected cookie jars and was an avid reader. Grace also enjoyed fishing and camping.

She is survived by her children Donna Cummings of Goose Rock, KY, Matt Stephenson of Grinnell, Ann Stephenson of Grinnell and Rick Stephenson of Montour; 11 grandchildren; 25 great-grandchildren; and her brother, Ron Wittrup of Ely, Minn.

Grace was preceded in death by her parents; her husband; two sisters, Mildred Potter and Laura "Toot" Wittrup; and two brothers, Dean Wittrup and Carl Wittrup.

Grace Elaine Stephenson, 77, died on Thursday, May 7, 2015 at St. Francis Manor in Grinnell. A graveside service will be held Wednesday, May 13 at the Jackson Township Cemetery in Montezuma. Memorials may be directed to the Grace Stephenson Memorial Fund and sent in care of the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell, PO Box 368, Grinnell, Iowa 50112. Memories and condolences may be shared with the family online at www.smithfh.com.

Grace Elaine Stephenson was born on Aug. 27, 1937, south of Searsboro to Walter and Alice (Rivers) Wittrup. She attended and graduated from Grinnell High School. Grace worked as a secretary for VanWyk Freight Lines.

On May 28, 1955, she was united in marriage to Myrl Stephenson in Grinnell. They were blessed with four children: Donna, Matt, Ann and Rick. The family moved to Minnesota for a short period of time and returned to Grinnell and later to Montezuma. Myrl passed away April 15, 1995, and later that year Grace moved back to Grinnell.

Grace loved working and helping people. She worked as a home health aid and tended the elderly. During holidays, she always made plates for people and delivered them before her family enjoyed the meal. She was an excellent cook and baker. Myrl and Grace always brought their goods to the farmer’s market. Her cinnamon rolls, homemade bread, cookies and pie were the best. Her family will miss the popovers, junk cookies and chocolate syrup on pancakes. She collected cookie jars and was an avid reader. Grace also enjoyed fishing and camping. She loved her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. Her laughter and sense of humor will be missed.

She is survived by her children; Donna (Cliff) Cummings of Goose Rock, Kentucky, Matt Stephenson of Grinnell, Ann Stephenson of Grinnell and Rick (Terry) Stephenson of Montour; 11 grandchildren; 25 great-grandchildren; her brother, Ron Wittrup of Ely, Minn.; and her sisters-in-law, Clara (Virgil) Scott and Joan Wittrup, all of Grinnell.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband; two sisters, Mildred Potter and Laura "Toot" Wittrup; and two brothers, Dean Wittrup and Carl Wittrup.

Grace Stephenson, 77, of Grinnell, died Thursday, May 7, 2015, at St. Francis Manor in Grinnell. A graveside service will be held at 10 a.m. Wednesday, at the Jackson Township Cemetery in Montezuma. Memorials may be directed to the Grace Stephenson Memorial Fund and sent in care of Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell, PO Box 368, Grinnell, Iowa.