

Norma Burkett



H.R. MARCH 3, 2005

Norma Burkett, 70, of Grinnell, died Tuesday, March 1, 2005, at Grinnell Regional Medical Center.

A funeral service was held Thursday, March 3, at Grinnell United Methodist Church with the Rev. Len Eberhart and Deacon Diane Eberhart officiating. Casket bearers were Bill Burkett, Marvin Burkett, Shane Burkett, Kerry Moore, Ron Harter and Mark Sanders. Interment followed in Hazelwood Cemetery. Memorials may be made to the Grinnell United Methodist Church or Grinnell Regional Medical Center. Condolences may be sent to www.smithfh.com.

She was born in Grinnell on April 9, 1934, the daughter of George Smith and Mary Cecile Farmer. She received her early education in rural schools and graduated from Grinnell High School in 1952. She was married to Doyle Burkett on Aug. 7, 1956, in Clayton, N.M. They resided in Dumas, Texas, for two years before returning to Grinnell in 1958. Both she and her husband were employed at Grinnell Shoe Factory. She then received the licensed practical nurse degree and was employed at St. Francis Hospital, later working for 19 years at Grinnell College as a custodian before retiring in 1996. She also for 40 years was financial advisor for GPC Builders, her husband's company.

She was a member of the United Methodist Church, the American Legion Auxiliary and the V.F.W. Auxiliary. She was devoted to her family, known for her culinary ability and loved dancing as well as traveling with her husband.

She is survived by her husband Doyle of Grinnell; two sons Rick and Neil of Grinnell; three grandchildren; two great grandchildren; one sister Peggy Armstrong of Grinnell and two brothers, Lyle (Bud) Smith of Bellflower, Calif., and Gene (Toby) Burkett of Grinnell. She was preceded in death by her parents; one sister Zelpha Crews and five brothers, Kenneth, Dale, Max, George and Neil Smith.