Patricia Geltner, 81, a Grinnell native, died in Livermore, Calif., on Nov. 18, 2015.

Per her wishes, her ashes will be scattered. Her family will hold a small family memorial service when they scatter the ashes at a future date.

The family asks that you honor her memory by appreciating the beauty around you and being kind to those who are near you. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Alzheimer's Association or the Breast Cancer Research Foundation.

Patricia Padgham was born March 14, 1934, in Grinnell, the youngest of three children of her father, John, a doctor, and her mother, Veronica, who had been a nurse.

In 1955 Pat married Ken Graff, who had also gone to Grinnell High School. The couple spent the majority of their married life in California, where Pat devoted most of her time to looking after her family and home. She was very involved with her children—playing games, creating projects, and making puppets for them to play with. She enjoyed sewing, and made most of the clothes for her daughter and herself.

After her divorce, Pat moved in with her mother, who was suffering from terminal cancer. While caring for her mother, Pat met Bob Geltner, whom she married in 1989. They lived in Seal Beach, Calif., for the last 25 years, but moved to Livermore, Calif., earlier this year to be closer to family when her health was deteriorating.

Pat loved reading, especially mysteries and historical non-fiction, watching mysteries and musicals, traveling, and going for walks. She joined the art league and created many beautiful pictures in pastel. She also loved to spend time baking and playing games with her grandchildren—often games she had invented specifically for them. Pat was imaginative and creative, writing and producing puppet shows and radio plays with her children and grandchildren.

She is survived by her husband, Bob; brother, John; children, Gary and Janet; and two grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents.