Mabel Esler Madill

Mabel Esler Madill, 100, of Grinnell, died Aug. 27, 2016, at Grinnell Regional Medical Center.
Funeral services are scheduled for 11 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 3, at Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell. Burial will be in Hazelwood Cemetery in Grinnell.

Visitation with the family present will be held from 9:30 to 11 a.m. Saturday prior to the service at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be directed to the Hammond Center for Assisted Living Campaign – St. Francis Manor Foundation.

Mabel was born February 5, 1916, in Grinnell, the daughter of Walter and Angie Foster Clindinin. She was raised in Grinnell and graduated from Grinnell High School in 1935.

On October 25, 1936, she was united in marriage with Paul Esler, Jr., in Albia, Iowa. The couple farmed south of Grinnell where they kept busy running a successful farm operation. She began working for Poweshiek County National Bank, now Wells Fargo, in 1954 and retired from there in 1981. She also clerked at the Grinnell Sale Barn for many years. After retiring from the bank, she was employed with various retail stores in Grinnell.

Following the death of her husband Paul in 1963, she was married to Lawrence Madill on September 3, 1971, at the Little Brown Church in Nashua, Iowa. They continued to make their home in Grinnell. Lawrence passed away in 1980 and she later moved to Seeland Park in Grinnell in 1990.

Mabel enjoyed bowling, knitting and was a prize winner in cross-stitching. She was an avid fan of the Grinnell Tigers, Grinnell College Pioneers and the Iowa Hawkeyes.

Survivors include two children, Carolyn (Dick) Ritter of Grinnell and Kenneth (Jan) Esler of Leonardtown, Maryland; six grandchildren, Steve (Karen) Ritter, Curt (Mary) Ritter, Tamara Esler, William (Kim) Esler, Tara Wright and Kenneth (Andrea) Esler, Jr.; 14 great-grandchildren; three great-great-grandchildren; three nieces and their spouses; two step-children, Arlene Madill of Cedar Rapids and Verna (Bill) Boland of Fairfax, Iowa; three step-grandchildren and four step-great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents; both husbands; two sisters, Ruth Gould and Helen Clindinin in infancy, and one brother, Harry Clindinin in 1944, a casualty of World War II.
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