

Elaine M. Bigbee, 87, of Grinnell, died on Monday, October 17, 2016, at the Mayflower Health Care Center in Grinnell.



A memorial service will be held at 11:00 a.m., Friday, October 21, 2016, at the Carman Center of the Mayflower Community with the Rev. Christine Tinker, chaplain of the Mayflower, officiating. Pianist will be Ann Buchmeier. Inurnment will be at Hazelwood Cemetery in Grinnell. The family will be present at the Carman Center from 10:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on Friday.

Memorials may be directed to the Station Club House and sent in care of the Smith Funeral Home, P.O. Box 368, Grinnell, Iowa 50112.

Elaine was born on December 8, 1928, at the family farm home near Hartwick, Iowa, to Loren and Minnie Chvala Block. She attended rural school and graduated with the Class of 1945 from Hartwick High School. Following high school, she moved to Des Moines and worked for the National Screen Service and the American Optical Company.

On May 12, 1952, she was married to Norris D. Bigbee in Marengo, Iowa, and to this union were born two children, Dale and Tracy. They operated a grain and livestock farm near Chelsea and Brooklyn. In 1964, they moved to Grinnell to make their home.

Elaine enjoyed dancing, shopping for bargains at Second Mile, collecting small antiques and dancing with Norris.

Survivors include her son, Dale Bigbee of Grinnell; two grandsons, Dustin Lohse of Seattle, Washington, and Tyrel R. Lohse of Des Moines; her son-in-law, Kurt Lohse of Newton; and one nephew, Marty Block of Hartwick, Iowa.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband; one daughter, Tracy Lohse; and two brothers, Garlan and Vernard Block.

OBITUARIES

GRINNELL RESIDENT

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