GRINNELL RESIDENT

Velda Irene Boss, 85

Velda Irene Boss, 85, of Grinnell and formerly of Hudson, Iowa, died October 22, 2015, at Grinnell Regional Medical Center.

A celebration of Velda’s life will be held Saturday, November 7th, at 10:30 a.m. at the First Presbyterian Church in Grinnell.

Memorial contributions may be directed to the First Presbyterian Church in Grinnell or to Grinnell United Methodist Community Meals.

Velda was born February 28, 1931, in Coffins Grove, Iowa, the daughter of Warren and Ethel (Hankins) Hamblin. She was raised in Coggon, Iowa, where she attended Nagents Grove Country School near her home.

She was a 1948 graduate of Coggon High School.

On September 19, 1949, she was united in marriage with Dorence “Bill” Boss, at the Zion Presbyterian Church in Coggon. The couple lived in Muscoke, Iowa, for several years prior to moving to Wyoming, Iowa. While in Wyoming, she owned and operated Velda’s Fine Foods. They later moved to Hudson, Iowa, where she was employed with the Hudson House restaurant and also made custom draperies for J.C. Penney. Her most important job was being a homemaker and raising her family.

In 2007, the couple moved to Seelock Park in Grinnell and most recently, she was a resident of St. Francis Manor in Grinnell.

Velda was a Sunday school teacher and 4-H leader while in Wyoming and a member of the Community Church in Hudson for 50 years, where she was active with the church bazaar.

After moving to Grinnell, she was a member of the First Presbyterian Church. She was also a member of the Eastern Star, Keepers Quilters, and the Embroider Guild.

Velda took great pride in raising her family and her love and devotion for them was very evident and very strong. She was the “best mother”! She was a professional seamstress and held a passion for arts and crafts. This included quilting, tatting, knitting, making wedding dresses, and decorating wedding and birthday cakes.

Survivors include four children: Virgil (Laurie) Boss of Driggs, Idaho, Glenda (Keith) Bernhardt of North Fork, Idaho, Paula (Paul) Hermann of New London, Wisconsin, and Lynette (Robert) Lender of Brooklyn, Iowa; one sister, Winifred Pillard of Troy Mills, Iowa; one sister-in-law, Garnet Harbaugh of Manchester, Iowa; 11 grandchildren; Laura Boss and (Deanna DeMarino), Aaron (Joceyln) Boss, Allison (Dan) Haakil, Ian (Randy) Bernhardt, Jarod Schlicht, Matt Hermann, Kyle Hermann, Eric (Allison) Sylvester, Rob (Crystal) Lender, Danielle (Kev) Anderson and Jamie Lender; 15 great-grandchildren; and her special caregiver, Phil Lender. She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband in 2012, two brothers-in-law, Malvin Pillard and Warren Harbaugh, and three sisters in infancy, Nadine, Bertha, and Janet.