

Barbara Lavent

6H-R 7-27-2017



Barbara Lavent, 74, of Grinnell, died Tuesday evening, July 25, 2017, at Grinnell Regional Medical Center. Visitation will be held from 3 until 8 p.m. on Friday evening in the Friendship Center of the Grinnell United Methodist Church. Her family will greet friends from 5 until 8 p.m. A prayer service will be held at 7 p.m. on Friday evening in the Friendship Center of the Grinnell United Methodist Church. Burial will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturday at the Jackson Township

Cemetery in Montezuma.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be designated to the Barbara Lavent Memorial Fund and mailed in care of the Smith Funeral Home, PO Box 368, Grinnell, Iowa 50112. Condolences may be shared with her family online at www.smithfh.com.

Barbara Cordelle Clark was born the daughter of Thomas Sheldon Clark and Marian Jeanette McNeal Clark on April 2, 1943, in Monmouth, Ill. She was raised in Grinnell and graduated from Grinnell High School with the Class of 1961. She then attended the University of Northern Iowa in Cedar Falls.

Barbara worked at Matthews Drug and was a secretary at the Department of Human Services in Grinnell. She then began her longtime career of over 40 years as a childcare provider and foster mother. Her enjoyments included camping, crocheting, and attending her grandchildren's activities.

Barbara is survived by her two sons, Joseph "Scott" Wagenknecht of Grinnell and Michael Wagenknecht of Colo; a daughter, Nancy Harter of Brooklyn; 14 grandchildren; three great grandchildren; and a sister, Nancy Kaisand of Greenville, SC.

She was preceded in death by her parents; infant sister Beverly Jolene Clark; and foster son, Tom Leedom.