GRINNELL RESIDENT

Waneta Cole, 88

Waneta Cole, 88, passed away at her home in Grinnell on October 29, 2017.

Funeral services were held on Friday, November 3rd, at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell with Rev. John Epperson officiating. Pallbearers were Paul Broadston, Ty Etel, Mike Flater, Matt Mutert, Brian Plozman, Brent Quandahl, Tony Sivola and Richard Stevens. Burial will be in Hazelwood Cemetery in Grinnell.

Visitation was held Thursday, November 2nd at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell with the family present from 5:00 to 7:00 Thursday evening.

Memorial contributions may be directed to the Waneta Cole Memorial Fund.

Waneta was born on August 19, 1929, in Memphis, Missouri, the daughter of Frederick and Florence (Huston) Thoman. She completed her education in Keosauqua, Iowa. Afterward, she greatly enjoyed teaching rural grade school and was later employed by Farm Bureau as a proofreader.

On December 22, 1950, Waneta was united in marriage to Ralph Cole in Kahoka, Missouri. They had four children, Tanya, Marvin, Rick and Jan. While raising a family in Des Moines, she served as a substitute teacher. Later, she worked for an insurance company in the Younkers building.

Waneta was very active while living on their acreage in Montezuma. Horseback riding, flower gardening, canning fruits and vegetables, traveling, camping, and baking were all things that she very much enjoyed. Family and friends were very important to Waneta. She hosted many gatherings over the years with everyone feeling very welcomed and no one ever leaving hungry.

Waneta will be lovingly remembered by her husband of 66 years, Ralph of Grinnell and her son Rick (Amy) Cole of Des Moines and daughter-in-law Cindy Cole of Redfield. Also missing her greatly will be her grandchildren Tammy (Brian) Plozman, Melissa (Tony) Sivola, Christina (Richard) Stevens, Marissa (Brent) Quandahl, Amanda (Mike) Flater, Jason Cole, Jamie (Ty) Etel, Jake (Monica) Cole, Michelle (Tonya) Cole, Heather Cole, Lindsay Schakel, and Kayla (Paul) Broadston and thirty-one great-grandchildren, ten great-great-grandchildren, numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, and in-laws.

She was preceded in death by her parents, a sister, Clella Mae; brothers, Eton and Fred; children, Jan, Tanya, and Marvin; and infant grandson Andrew.