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Frances M. Smith

Frances M. Smith, 79, of Grinnell, passed away on Wednesday, January 3, 2018, at Grinnell Health Care Center.

A funeral service will be held at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, January 6, 2018, at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell with the Rev. John Epperson officiating. Casket Bearers will be Thadeus Burnham, Steven Kephart, Lane Henkle, Jody Galloway, Denny Routier, Lindsay Davenport, Megan Astelle, Amanda Burnham and Taylor Burnham. Interment will be at Hazelwood Cemetery in Grinnell.

Friends may call at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell beginning at 2:00 p.m. on Friday and the family will be present at the funeral home from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Friday.

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

Frances was born on July 20, 1938, in Grinnell to Harold and Bernice Wright Galloway. She attended rural school in Jasper County and later graduated with the Class of 1956 from Grinnell High School.

On August 17, 1956, she was united in marriage to Russell Burnham in Grinnell and to this union was born four children, Rodney, Rick, Jim and Patty. The family lived in Grinnell, where she was a mother and homemaker. She began a 29-year career with General Telephone Company in Grinnell as a telephone operator and advanced to administrative secretary for various department heads.

In 1987, she was married to Charles L. Smith in Montezuma. The couple made their home in Grinnell and he passed away on March 28, 1991.

Frances was past president of the Grinnell Eagles Auxiliary and was a member of the American Business Women's Association. She was an avid reader and enjoyed doing family genealogy but most of all she enjoyed spending time with her children and grandchildren.

Survivors include her children, Rodney (Jerri) Burnham of Marshalltown, Rick (Cheryl) Burnham of Grinnell, Jim (Debbie) Burnham of Garland, Texas, and Patty (Mike) Clabaugh of Stanhope, Iowa; seven grandchildren; six great grandchildren; one brother, Denton (Judy) Galloway of Des Moines; and one sister, Sandy Gethmann of Newton; and her companion, Eldon Van Syoc of Grinnell.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Charles; her parents; and one brother, Marlin Galloway.

