Dorothy Ellis, 78, of Grinnell, died Wednesday, Jan. 30, 2019, at her home in Grinnell.

A memorial service will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 5, at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell with Rev. John Epperson officiating. A reception will follow the service at the Eagles in Grinnell.

Memorials may be designated to the Dorothy Ellis Memorial Fund and mailed in care of the Smith Funeral Home, PO Box 368, Grinnell, Iowa 50112. Memories and condolences may be shared with the family online at www.smithfh.com.

Dorothy Gale Kroechnke was born on Oct. 25, 1940, in Grinnell, Iowa to Frank Louis Kroechnke and Donna Bernice (Shaw) Kroechnke. She was raised in Klemme, Iowa, and graduated from Belmond-Klemme High School in 1957.

In April of 1966 Dorothy was united in marriage to Larry Ellis in Grinnell. The couple lived in Grinnell and Dorothy worked at Goodyear Tire and later for Jeld-Wen Windows in Grinnell. She was a longtime member of the Eagles in Grinnell, where she was a past president and secretary for over 14 years with the Eagles Auxiliary.

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Dorothy enjoyed traveling with Larry to Eagles events throughout the United States. She also enjoyed bowling, golfing, going for motorcycle rides, and giving Larry a hard time. She held a special love for animals and there wasn’t a stray cat in her neighborhood that wasn’t cared for and fed.

Dorothy is survived by her husband of 52 years, Larry Ellis of Grinnell; stepdaughter, Chris Goodrich of Brooklyn; step-grandsons, Justin (Bethany) Goodrich of Ladora and their daughter, Emery, Matthew Goodrich of Brooklyn, Zachary Goodrich of Brooklyn, and Charlie Goodrich of Brooklyn; nephew, Don Ellis of Grinnell and his children, Donnie and Stacy, both of Grinnell. Dorothy was preceded in death by her parents, and half-sister, Doris Broders.