Charlene Boat, age 65 of Grinnell, passed away peacefully on Friday, June 21, 2019, at her home.

A funeral service will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, June 26, 2019, at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell with Pastor Brad Singleton, Community Church in Montezuma, officiating. Interment will be at Rock Creek Cemetery near Kellogg. A reception and continued fellowship will follow at the Eagles in Grinnell.

Visitation will begin at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday at the Smith Funeral Home and her family will receive friends from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.

Memorials may be designated to the Muscular Dystrophy Association or to the University of Iowa Stead Family Children’s Hospital, mailed in care of the Smith Funeral Home, PO Box 368, Grinnell, Iowa 50112. Memories and condolences may be shared with Charlene’s family online at www.smithfh.com.

Charlene Ann DeVore was born the daughter of Charles Leo DeVore and Betty Avilla (Luman) DeVore on August 13, 1953, in Des Moines, Iowa. Due to her mother, Betty’s declining health at a young age, she was raised by her grandparents, Lloyd and Bernie Luman, in Des Moines, and later by her sister, Judy, in San Antonio, Texas.

Charlie was united in marriage to Harvey Bruce Deatherage on August 6, 1970, in Marion, Texas, while Bruce served the United States Army, the couple moved to multiple states before returning back to Texas. To this union two children were born, Scott Lloyd and Melissa Kay. Their marriage later ended in divorce.

Charlie was united in marriage to Patrick James Boat on August 5, 1986, in Grinnell, where they had lived all of their married lives. Charlie was a long-time nurse, having worked 27 years at St. Francis Manor in Grinnell. She also worked at the Mayflower Community and Windsor Manor until retiring due to health reasons.

Charlie devoted much of her life to caring for others and always putting others needs ahead of her. Her son, Scott, was diagnosed with Muscular Dystrophy at a young age and Charlie ensured he would always be provided the best care. Charline took great pleasure in collecting and watching movies and doing crossword puzzles. She enjoyed making crafts, taking trips to Alaska, and sitting on the porch watching birds and catching fireflies with her sister, Judy.

Her daughter, Melissa described her mother as “the kindest, most gentle, compassionate person she has ever known.” Charlene will be remembered for being the “fun, crazy Grandma with an amazing sense of humor,” one who overcame the toughest obstacles in life, who never lost her faith, and for the amazing love she had for family.

Charlie is survived by her husband, Patrick Boat of Grinnell; daughter, Melissa (Gary Neitzel) Deatherage of Montezuma and Brooklyn, respectively; grandchildren, Mitchell (Shaylin) Bryan of Lynnville, Quintin Bryan of Waukee, Iowa, and Harry Hamilton of Montezuma; sister, Judy (Henry) Schoenewald of Bentonville, Arkansas; and Judy’s children, Daniel Gutierrez, Marie (Anthony) Valencia, and Alex Gutierrez, all of Texas; and many cousins as well. She is preceded in death by her parents; grandparents; son, Scott Deatherage in 1996; mother-in-law, Catherine Boat; father-in-law, Ted Boat; brother-in-law, Michael Boat; aunt, Dorothy Adkins; and uncle, Dale Adkins.
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