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8-8-2019

Mary Helen Long

Mary Helen Long, 86, of Grinnell died on August 8, 2019, at Unity Point Grinnell Regional Medical Center.

Funeral services are scheduled for 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, August 13, at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell with the Rev. John Epperson, Grinnell Regional Hospice Chaplain, officiating. Pallbearers will be Jim and Ron Cooper, Jack Morrison, Joel Niday, Jeff Oliver and Mike Pierce. Burial will be in Hazelwood Cemetery in Grinnell.

Memorial contributions may be directed to the Mayflower Community Human Needs Fund.

Mary was born on February 5, 1933, in Grinnell, the daughter of Marvin and Bessie Jane Dick Cooper. She was raised in Grinnell and attended school in the Grinnell School District.

On September 18, 1950, she was united in marriage with Roger Long, in Iowa City. A union of nearly 69 years! The couple made their home in Grinnell prior to moving to Torrance, California, in 1960. They returned to Grinnell in 1969. During this time, Mary kept busy raising her family and then later she was employed with several stores in downtown Grinnell.

Mary was a very good seamstress and really enjoyed painting, playing dominoes and was considered a good cook. She had traveled to all fifty states and several countries abroad; her trips with her grandson, Mike, were cherished! She held a fun sense of humor, loved the Christmas Holidays, and Saturday morning coffee with family and friends.

She is survived by her husband, Roger of Grinnell; her daughter, Cathy (Dave) Pierce of Grinnell; two siblings, Betty (Dwight) Niday of Grinnell and Chuck (Bonnie) Cooper of Kellogg; a daughter-in-law, Linda Long of Newton; four grandchildren, Mike Pierce of Chicago, Andy (Julie) Pierce of Metter, Georgia; Jeanette (John) Martinez of Meridian, Idaho, and Matt (Monique) Long of El Segundo, California; and six great-grandchildren, Joshua, Anna, Jake, Jade, Blake and Makayla. She was preceded in death by her parents; two sons, Steven and Richard Long; and one brother, Ralph Cooper.

