

GH-R
2-6-2020

Shirley Lou Conner

Shirley Lou Conner, 84, of Grinnell, peacefully went to be her Lord Jesus Christ on Feb. 3, 2020.

Services will be held at 10:30 a.m. Sat. Feb. 8, at Grinnell Christian Church with the Rev. John Epperson, Unity Point Grinnell Regional Hospice chaplain, and the Rev. Scott Surovec, Grinnell Christian Church, officiating. Private burial will take place in Oskaloosa. Bagpiper will be Jed Petersen. Pallbearers will be Jason, Bradley, Raymond, Preston Thompson, Alex Wick and Dakota Conn. Honorary bearers will be Jerry Barns, Andy Conn, Dusty Montgomery, Richard Powers and Scott Schmidt.



Visitation will be from 2 to 7 p.m. Friday with family present from 5 to 7 p.m. at Smith Funeral Home, and 1 hour prior to church service on Saturday.

Memorials may be directed to Grinnell Christian Church, Grinnell Volunteer Fire Department, or the Iowa State Fair Blue Ribbon Foundation.

Shirley was born on October 1, 1935, the daughter of LeRoy and Clara Breazeale Wick, in Iowa City, Iowa. She enjoyed a happy childhood, attending country schools in the Afton and Creston, Iowa, area. The family moved to Oskaloosa where she graduated from high school in 1953.

On August 30, 1953, she was united in marriage to Kenneth Conner. They lived in the Austin and Fort Worth areas while Ken was stationed in the United States Air Force. They returned home and their daughter Karen Elaine was born. After moving around to several communities in Iowa, they made their home in Grinnell. Shirley was the manager of the Montgomery Ward Catalog Store, working there for 20 years. In the years that followed, she worked in the offices of Dr. Town and Dr. Mitchell as an optometric assistant. Not ready to retire, she worked for Tama and Poweshiek counties for the next twelve years as a Job Coach for persons with disabilities, a truly rewarding job for her.

Shirley attended the Grinnell Christian Church.

Shirley is survived by her husband; her daughter; three grandchildren, Jason (Kristin) Thompson, Bradley (Stephanie) Thompson, and Amy Thompson; six great-grandchildren, Addison, Preston, Isabella, Dawson, Ailey, and Teagan; and several nieces, nephews and cousins.

Shirley was preceded in death by her parents; her sisters Dorothy, Lucille and Bernice; and her brothers, Gerald and Lloyd.

Shirley truly enjoyed her time with family and friends. She looked forward to volunteering at the Iowa State Fair which she and Ken did for the last 17 years. She loved going places and touched many hearts, leaving behind a beautiful legacy.