

64-R  
3-9-2020 **Arlene M. Davenport**

Arlene M. Davenport, 92, of Grinnell, peacefully went to be with her Lord Jesus Christ on March 3, 2020, at her home, after an illness that hung on for over two years.

A Celebration of Life service was held at 11:00 a.m., Saturday, March 7, at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell with the Rev. John Epperson officiating. A private family burial will be held at a later date at Hazelwood Cemetery in Grinnell.

The Davenport family received friends from 9:30 a.m. until the start of the service at the funeral home.

Memorial contributions may be designated to PALS, Poweshiek Animal League, P.O. Box 123, Grinnell, Iowa 50112.

Arlene was born on May 18, 1927, in Grinnell, the daughter of Albert and Alma Luttmann Graff. She was raised in Grinnell and was a 1945 graduate of Grinnell High School.

On September 4, 1946, she was united in marriage to William Oscar Davenport, in Grinnell. They made their home in Grinnell where their son, Eugene, was born in 1947 and their daughter, Diane, was born in 1949. Arlene had lived on Spencer Street in Grinnell for many years and always had her home looking so warm and inviting.

Arlene worked for 35 years as the manager at Cunningham Drug fountain and met many friends there. She enjoyed her job so much and was well liked by many of the "nickel coffee" drinkers. She had said that many patrons who sat at the fountain to drink their coffee or drinks, eat her delicious chicken or tuna salad sandwiches, or even had a Candyland or a malt would tell her many stories of their life and events right at that counter; she enjoyed listening to these stories shared.

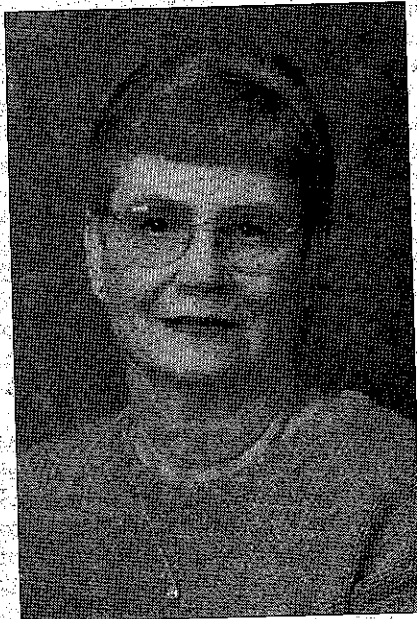
After Arlene retired, she enjoyed working outside with her many flowers. Being out in her yard was something she loved. She loved collecting many animal figurines of all kinds, but mainly cat and dog figurines and many stuffed animals and beanie babies, too. But most of all she loved the many cats and dogs she had given a home to over the years. She also loved watching sports on TV, especially the Iowa Hawkeyes!

Arlene was a member of St. John's Lutheran Church in Grinnell.

Arlene enjoyed playing cards; she looked forward to those card nights and this went on for many years. She also enjoyed listening to music whether it was Music in the Park on Thursday evenings, Friday night concerts at Rock Creek with the Keenans, or listening to country and polka music at home. Barefoot Becky was her favorite musician. She enjoyed lunches once a week with her friends, shopping, going to craft shows with her daughter and absolutely loved buying purses and lots of jewelry. She enjoyed trips to Wakefield, Massachusetts, to see her son and family, visiting her brother, Albert, Jr. and his wife, Phyllis in Arizona, and visiting Florida with her daughter. She really loved all those trips!

Arlene is survived by her son, Eugene (Janie) Davenport of Wakefield, Massachusetts; her daughter, Diane (Duane) Beeler of Grinnell; four grandchildren, Scott (Amy) Davenport of Merrick, New Hampshire, Kim (Ryan) Youngdale of Clive, Julie Davenport of Beverly Hills, California, and Troy (Ashley) Beeler of Cedar Rapids; seven great-grandchildren, Krista & Clay Youngdale, Laura & Nate Davenport, and Addison, Luke and Kendra Beeler; two sisters-in-law, Viola Gamble of Florida and Phyllis Graff of Arizona; and many nieces, nephews and cousins. She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Bill in 1990; three siblings, Albert, Jr. in 2011, Delores Larson in 1965, and Lorraine (Rainey) Graff in 2011; and several uncles, aunts, nephews, nieces, cousins, and her dear friends she had made throughout the years.

*Arlene had touched many hearts in her 92 years, and she was the sweetest and kindness person you could have ever known. She will live in ALL our hearts forever.*



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3-5-2020