

Mary Ellen Lynch ^{6H-R} ₆₋₄₋₂₀₂₀

Mary Ellen Lynch, 95, of Grinnell, died on Monday, June 1, 2020, of natural causes, at the Mayflower Health Care Center.

A graveside service and burial has been scheduled for 10:00 a.m. Thursday, June 4, at Hazelwood Cemetery, located on the far west end of the cemetery. Pastor Dave Crow, Grinnell United Methodist Church, will be officiating.

Memorial contributions may be designated to Second Mile in Grinnell.

Mary Ellen was born in Grinnell, Iowa, on January 20, 1925, to S.W. Inman and Ruth Bradley Inman. She was raised in Grinnell with her sister and two brothers, attended Davis School, and graduated from Grinnell High School in 1942.

Mary Ellen was married to Warren Harley Binegar of Grinnell. Warren, a member of the Grinnell Police Department, was killed in the line of duty on August 19, 1948. In 1950, she was married to James H. Lynch of Grinnell, who earned a Silver Star in World War II. She once said when asked about this, "I guess I just married heroes."

Mary Ellen lived in Denver, Colorado, for 34 years where she was employed as a grocery clerk for King Soopers for 28 years. In addition, she proudly served as a union steward for Retail Clerks #7 for many years.

In 1989, she returned to Grinnell, where she was active with her former GHS classmates, the VFW Auxiliary, American Legion Auxiliary, the United Methodist Church, Red Hats, and the Second Mile. She never missed an election and served as a precinct captain and poll worker. She worked part-time at the Grinnell College sports complex into her 80s.

Mary Ellen was a big fan of Grinnell High School athletics and Iowa and Iowa State basketball. She was a devoted Denver Bronco fan. She recorded daily weather information for decades. Mary Ellen was a good source of historical information about the city of Grinnell.

Mary Ellen is survived by her four daughters: Judy Binegar (Phil Stepp) of Kellogg; Mary Piette (Tom) of Auburn, California; Margaret Finn of Wellsville, New York; and Kathleen Gouker (Bruce) of Greeley, Colorado; seven grandchildren: Betsy Giese Dolan, Bill Geise, Andy Geise, Joe Piette, Andy Piette, Catlin Finn, and Wiley Finn; five great-grandchildren with one on the way; and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her two husbands; her parents; her brothers, John and "Bugs" Inman; and her sister, Sally Inman Roth.

