

GH - Dec 11, 2006

Bonnie L. Perry



Bonnie L. Perry, 97, of Grinnell died Tuesday, Dec. 5, 2006, at Mayflower Health Care Center.

A funeral service was held Saturday, Dec. 9, at the United Church of Christ with the

Rev. Kathy Reid, interim pastor, officiating. Music was by Pat Saxton, organist, and Richard Perry, vocalist. Interment was in Prairie Rose Cemetery, rural Corning. Memorials may be made to the Grinnell United Church of Christ or to the Mayflower Human Needs Fund.

She was born May 19, 1909, in Lewis, the daughter of Charles Elmer and Louise Amelia Marie Guske Bailey. The family lived from 1912 to 1918 near Wakaw, Saskatchewan, Canada, and returned to Iowa to farm near the communities of Atlantic, Lewis and Adel. She attended rural schools and public schools in Atlantic and Lewis, then graduated with the class of 1929 from Van Meter High School. She studied for two years at the Iowa National Bible Training School in Des Moines before transferring to Simpson College in Indianola from which she received the bachelor of science degree in home economics in 1933. She then taught school and became a dietitian at Esther Hall in Des Moines. In January 1939 she enrolled in the Biblical Seminary in New York City where she completed three semesters of study in religious education.

She was married on May 21, 1939, to Homer Perry at the Biblical Seminary in New York City. In August 1940, they moved to Sloan, Iowa, and during World War II, as her husband served as a chaplain in the United States Army, she lived in Adel, Atlantic and Halfway, Oregon. The family then lived in Marion, Newburg, Madrid, Wilton Junction, Mapleton and Schaller as her husband served in churches and she was active in 4-H, Campfire Girls, youth programs at her churches and later in church camping programs of the Iowa Conference of the United Church of Christ. Throughout her married life, she worked closely with her husband in various church responsibilities as well as those of a homemaker and mother. They retired in November 1987 and moved to Mayflower. She was a member of the United Church of Christ-Congregational in Grinnell.

She is survived by her husband Homer Perry of Grinnell; two daughters Dorothy Blazek of Pueblo, Colo., and Sylvia Hain of Lone Tree; seven grandchildren; nine great grandchildren and one brother Harold Bailey of Adel. She was preceded in death by her parents, one brother Ronald Bailey and two sisters, Iva England and Bernice Bailey.

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Bonnie L. Perry, 97, of Grinnell died Tuesday, Dec. 5, 2006, at Mayflower Health Care Center.

A funeral service will be held Saturday, Dec. 9, at 10 a.m. at the United Church of Christ-Congregational. Interment will be in Prairie Rose Cemetery near Corning. Friends may call at Smith Funeral Home Friday beginning at 12 noon with family members present from 4 to 7 p.m. Memorials may be made either to the United Church of Christ-Congregational or to the Mayflower Human Needs Fund.