

Dorothy J. Delk ^{GH-R}
10-21-2021



Dorothy J. Delk, 101, of Grinnell died on October 19, 2021, at the Mayflower Community Health Care Center in Grinnell after a battle with dementia.

A funeral service has been scheduled for 10:30 a.m. Monday, October 25, at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell with the Rev. John Epperson of Grinnell officiating. Pallbearers are Dewey Batsburger, Kenny Comstock, Larry Delk, Kyle Holland, Ray McGee, and Nathaniel Nelson. Honorary Bearers will be Dorothy's grandchildren and great grandchildren. Burial will be in Hazelwood Cemetery in Grinnell.

Visitation with the Delk family present will be held from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Sunday, at the Smith Funeral Home.

Memorial contributions may be directed to the Delk family in c/o of Whitney Ruple or to UnityPoint Grinnell Regional Hospice.

Dorothy was born on September 21, 1920, in Van Horne, the daughter of Isaac Newton and Dorothy Loving Woodle Hoover. She was raised and educated in Van Horne.

On July 15, 1942, she was united in marriage to Champ Delk, in Newton - a union of 52 years until Champ passed away in 1994.

The couple made their home in Grinnell and for many years she was employed with Means Towel Company, in housekeeping at Grinnell Regional Medical Center, and on the weekends she helped in the kitchen at the Grinnell American Legion.

Dorothy held an immeasurable love and care for her family; she enjoyed sharing her time with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She was the family matriarch! She enjoyed hosting Sunday family dinners and held an "open door" policy with others. Some Saturdays were spent watching the Lawrence Welk show and playing Scrabble. She was a very selfless person that never turned anyone away. She was very trusting! Other enjoyments and passions included crocheting, baking, solving crossword puzzles, and watching her favorite soap operas daily, particularly, "Days of our Lives." She held a weakness for anything chocolate!

Survivors include her grandchildren, Nick Etter, Lindsey Etter, and Whitney Ruple, all of Grinnell, and Jessie Ruple of Brooklyn; and 12 great-grandchildren, Kendra, Kaylee, Jaden, Ryleigh, Aleah, Jahkira, Haylee, Marlie, Mackenzi, Jaxon, Scarlett, and Champ; her niece Geneva (Kenny) Comstock; many other nieces and nephews; and good friends Carol (Ray McGee). She was preceded in death by her parents; her two sisters; her husband, Champ in 1994; her only daughter, Marlene Delk in 2013; and a grandson, Justin Etter Delk, in infancy.