Mathilda Liberman GH-R 4-9-2022



Mathilda Liberman, pictured with granddaughter Carmina

Mathilda Liberman, 89, of Chicago and formerly of Grinnell, died in Chicago on April 12, 2022.

No memorial events are currently scheduled.

Mathilda Nahra was born Feb. 20, 1933, in Detroit, Mich., the

daughter of Howard and Salma Nahra.

Mathilda earned her bachelor's degree at the University of Michigan and her master's at the University of Connecticut. She married Myron M. Liberman in 1958 in Detroit, Mich. They moved to Grinnell in 1960, when he joined the faculty as a professor of English; he taught at Grinnell until his retirement in 1987.

Mathilda was a Grinnell College faculty member for more than 30 years, joining the college in 1960 and serving until her retirement as Lecturer Emerita in English in 1997. In her time at Grinnell, Mathilda taught courses in the humanities, and was instrumental in helping to develop and organize the Writing Laboratory. She was the Writing Laboratory's first director and served in that role for more than two decades. In its nearly 50 years of existence, the lab, now known as the Writing, Reading, and Speaking Center, has become a model in developing writing-across-the-curriculum programs.

Mathilda is survived by her two sons, Noah and Alex, both from the Chicago area; as well as five grandchildren: Joseph, Julio José and Carmina Izabella, all of Chicago, and Amanda and Grace, of

Washington, DC.

She was preceded in death by her husband in 1995.