Kathryn G. Larsen


A funeral service was held Thursday, Jan. 3, 2008, at Grinnell Christian Church with the Rev. Dan Toney officiating. Interment was in Hazelwood Cemetery. Memorials may be made to Grinnell Christian Church; to Literatures & Teaching Ministries or to Grinnell Regional Hospice and may be sent to PO Box 368, Grinnell IA 50112.

The daughter of J. Russell and Agnes Graham Lang, she was born July 4, 1919, in Madison Township, rural Brooklyn. Raised on the family farm, she attended Madison #9 rural school, then graduated from Grinnell High School with the class of 1936. She assisted her parents with their Today’s Egg Farm and later at Lang’s Parlor Dairy, delivering milk.

She was united in marriage with H. Donald Larsen, on Feb. 10, 1938, in Grinnell. The Larsens farmed in Poweshiek County until 1950 when they built and operated Larsen Motel east of Grinnell. In 1955, they built a rural home east of Grinnell to which they moved. They retired in 1986, moving into Grinnell and wintering in Arizona.

She was a member of Madison Church of Christ and a charter member of Grinnell Christian Church where she was a Sunday School teacher, youth leader, involved in its Cradle Roll department and as a wedding consultant. She also was an active member of the Grinnell Regional Medical Center Auxiliary. She enjoyed her family, flowers, sewing, entertaining and photography.

She is survived by her children, Lucille Green and Dale Larsen of Grinnell and Kay Rader of Grand Rapids, Mich.; her son-in-law Aaron Corbin of Grinnell; three brothers, James and Eugene Lang of Grinnell and John Lang of Traer; three sisters, Grace Davidson of Cedar Rapids, Jane Thompson of Grinnell and Carol Shaner of St. Clair Shores, Mich.; 12 grandchildren, 27 great grandchildren and one great great grandchild. She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband Don in 1996; her daughter Donna Corbin in 1998 and her granddaughter Marsha Corbin in infancy.
Kathryn G. Larsen, 88

Kathryn G. Larsen, age 88, of Grinnell, died Friday, Dec. 28, 2007, at St. Francis Manor in Grinnell.

A funeral service was held at 10:30 a.m., Thursday, Jan. 3, 2008, at the Grinnell Christian Church with Rev. Dan Toney officiating. Interment was at Hazelwood Cemetery in Grinnell.

Memorials may be directed to the Grinnell Christian Church, or to Literatures & Teaching Ministries, or to Grinnell Regional Hospice and may be sent to P.O. Box 368, Grinnell, IA 50112.

Online condolences may be submitted to the family on the Smith Funeral Home Web site at www.smithfh.com.

Kathryn was born the daughter of J. Russell and Agnes Graham Lang on July 4, 1919, in Madison Township in Brooklyn. She was raised on the family farm and attended country school at Madison #9. She graduated from Grinnell High School in 1936. Kathryn helped her parents at their Today's Egg Farm in early years, and later at Lang's Parlor Dairy, delivering milk.

She was united in marriage to H. Donald Larsen on Feb. 10, 1938, in Grinnell. To this union was born four children, Donna Sue, Lucille Irene, Dale Kenneth and Kay Louise. The couple farmed in Ringgold County until 1950, when they built and owned Larsen Motel. In 1955, they built their home and moved to the farm east of Grinnell. In 1986, they retired and moved to town. They enjoyed wintering in Arizona.

Kathryn was a member of the Madison Church of Christ and a charter member of Grinnell Christian Church. She was involved as a Sunday School teacher, youth leader, the Cradle Roll department and wedding consultant. She was a real servant. Kathryn was a volunteer and active member of Grinnell Regional Medical Center Auxiliary. She had a love for her family, flowers, sewing, entertaining and photography.

Survivors include her children, Lucille (John) Green and Dale (Marlene) Larsen of Grinnell, Kay (Darwin) Rader of Grand Rapids, Mich.; son-in-law, Aaron Corbin of Grinnell; three brothers, James (Norma) Lang and Eugene (Deloris) Lang of Grinnell, and John (Rosie) Lang of Tract; three sisters, Grace Davidson of Cedar Rapids, Jane (Don) Thompson of Grinnell, and Carol (Tom) Shaner of St. Clair Shores, Mich.; 12 grandchildren; 27 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

Kathryn has rejoined her parents; husband, Don, 1996; daughter, Donna Corbin, 1998; and granddaughter, Marsha Corbin in infancy, 1965.