

(Ralph)

Esther Andersen

Esther Andersen, 85, of 802 Park St., Grinnell, died of a stroke and heart failure Monday, Nov. 5, at Grinnell General Hospital.

Funeral services were conducted Thursday at the Grinnell Christian Church, with the Rev. John Epperson officiating. Music was provided by organist Jolene Jones, vocalists Bob and Valeta Brown and instrumentalist Jacqueline Halbloom.

Pallbearers were Douglas Cameron, Aaron Corbin, John Green, William Husak, Terry Lowry and Larry Mindrup. Honorary bearers were Burdette Abel, Harold Cocking, John Halbloom, Leonard Latcham, Bob Murdock and Warren "Bud" Wolf.

Burial was in Our Silent City Cemetery, Kellogg. Memorials may be made to the Grinnell Christian Church.

The daughter of William Sherman and Sarah Elliott Murdock, she was born Dec. 1, 1904, in the Barrett community north of Kellogg. She attended rural schools and Grinnell High School, graduating from Marshalltown High School in 1923. She obtained her teaching certificate and taught in rural Jasper County schools.

She was married to Ralph Eli Andersen Nov. 25, 1925, in Newton. The couple farmed near Kellogg until 1936 when they moved to Kellogg. They returned to farming in 1950, this time in the Newburg and Grinnell areas, moving to Grinnell in 1964. Mrs. Anderson worked as an aide at the former St. Francis Hospital, served in the housekeeping department at Grinnell College, and worked briefly at the Hotel Sheldon Munn in Ames. She retired to the Monroe Park Apartments in 1976.

She was a member of the Grinnell Christian Church, the Rest and Recreation Club and the Community Bible Study Group.

Surviving are two sons, Raymond of Riverside, Calif., and James of Grinnell; four grandchildren; and two sisters, Mary Paul of Las Vegas, Nev., and Naomi Chapman of Ames. She was preceded in death by her husband in 1985; a daughter, Esther Jeane Andersen; six brothers, Nelson, Lewis, Earl and John Murdock and two in infancy; and three sisters, Edna Paul, Dell Antle and Ruth Rahn.