

Eleanor C. Bowers

Eleanor Georgiana Chleboun Bowers (EDD W.)

Eleanor Bowers of Grinnell died July 11, 2000 in Des Moines.

A memorial for her was July 16 at Herrick Chapel on the Grinnell College campus with Rev. Dennis Haas, retired college chaplain, officiating. Jeannie Chenette began the service with a harp prelude, Bach's "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring" and ended with a postlude on the harp, "To a Wild Rose" by Edward MacDowell. Other musical selections were, "You Never Walk Alone" sung by Vickie and Sam Reaves and "Amazing Grace." Pianist was Betty Ann Battey.

The service was arranged by Carlton D. Peterson, Hamilton's Funeral Home and the Grinnell College Class of 1963.

A reception celebrating Mrs. Bowers' life followed the memorial at Grinnell House on campus.

Eleanor Georgiana Chleboun was born June 28, 1921 in Cicero, Ill. to Czech parents, Lad and Rose Chleboun. She grew up in a Czech community in Chicago and spent summers in Algonquin, Ill. on the Fox River speaking Czech in her grandfather's cottage. She attended Morton High School and Morton Junior College, graduating with honors. She played cello in the Oak Park Symphony.

She came to Iowa in 1940 and graduated from Grinnell College in 1942. In the spring of 1941, she met Edd William Bowers and they were married Jan. 21, 1944.

Mrs. Bowers taught for 44 years in Stuart, in Lexington, Ill. during World War II, in Mt. Pleasant and in Grinnell.

During the summer, the family lived in Eshquagama Club in northern Minnesota where she taught Sunday school and tutored children with learning difficulties. In 1992, she and her husband began wintering in Rockport, Texas, where she volunteered in schools and hospitals.

Mrs. Bowers belonged to Delta Kappa Gamma Society International and was a volunteer for Uncle Sam's Club, the Grinnell Historical Museum, Grinnell Regional Medical Center and Grinnell's Caring Adults.

She enjoyed her friends, Arkansas Bay, bird-watching, local flora and fauna and golf.

She is survived by her husband, Edd Bowers of Grinnell; her son and his wife, Edd William Bowers, Jr. and Sherry Ross Bowers of Grinnell; daughters, Debbie Johnson and her husband Gerald W. Johnson of Trophy Club, Texas and Cindy Fulton and her husband Thomas W. Fulton of Chestertown, Md.; her grandchildren, William Benjamin Fulton of Baltimore, Erika Kathleen Fulton of Baton Rouge, Aaron Lad Johnson of Trophy Club, Texas; Carrie E. Johnson Sharer and her husband Bryan C. Sharer of Grapevine, Texas, Courtney Suzanne Bowers of Cape Cod and Mary Marcelle Ross of Grinnell and her great-grandchildren, Sloane Danielle Johnson and Ethan William Mitchell.

Also among those left to honor her memory are a dear brother-in-law, Richard Bowers, his wife Doris of Montezuma and their children and grandchildren.



Eleanor Georgiana Chleboun Bowers, 79, of Oakland Acres, died Tuesday, July 11, 2000, in Iowa Methodist Medical Center in Des Moines of a respiratory ailment.

A memorial service will be held Sunday, July 16, at 11 a.m. in Herrick Chapel. The Eleanor Bowers Scholarship Fund has been established at Grinnell College and memorials may be sent % The Annual Fund, Grinnell College, Grinnell IA 50112.

She was born June 28, 1921 in Cicero, Ill., the daughter of Czech parents Lad and Rose Chleboun. She grew up in the Chicago area, graduating with honors from Morton Junior College and played the cello in the Oak Park Symphony. She graduated from Grinnell College in 1942 and was married to Edd William Bowers, also a Grinnell College graduate, Jan. 21, 1944. She taught school for 44 years including Stuart, Iowa; Lexington, Ill., and Mount Pleasant, Iowa, before moving to Grinnell where she taught junior high school social studies. She was a long-time member of the board of directors of the Uncle Sam's Club, a member of Delta Kappa Gamma international education society, and was a volunteer for the Grinnell Historical Museum, Grinnell Regional Medical Center and Caring Adults. She also volunteered in the schools and hospital in Rockport, Texas, where the Bowers spent the winter months, and enjoyed golf and bird watching.

She is survived by her husband Edd of Oakland Acres; one son Edd Jr, Grinnell.; two daughters, Debbie Johnson, Trophy Club, Texas, and Cindy Fulton, Chestertown, Md., six grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

MR August 2, 2000

H-R July 13, 2000