

DWIGHT

H-R March 15, 1990

Merle V. Sparks

Merle V. Sparks, 85, of Lynnville, a resident of Friendship Manor, died of a stroke Thursday, March 15, at Grinnell General Hospital.

Funeral services are pending at the Smith Funeral Home, where friends may call.

Mrs. Sparks, the widow of Dwight Sparks, is survived by two daughters, Marilyn Burnham of Grinnell and Frances Thomas of Fresno, Calif., and one son, Roger of Manassas, Va.

Merle V. Sparks

Merle V. Sparks, 85, of 407 West St., Grinnell, died Thursday, March 15, at Grinnell General Hospital.

Funeral services were conducted Monday afternoon at the Smith Funeral Home, with the Revs. Keith Briggs, pastor of the Grinnell First Friends Church, and Kenneth Santee, pastor of the Lynnville Friends Church, officiating. Organist was Harriet Macy, and vocalists were Bruce Burnham and Kathy and Lowell Vanderploeg. Pallbearers were Bruce Burnham, Gary Briggs, Mike Needham, William Stewart, Lowell Vanderploeg and Lester Vander Wilt. Burial was in Woodland Cemetery, Lynnville.

The daughter of Benjamin and Catherine Keener, she was born Nov. 3, 1904, at Wapello. The family moved to Grinnell in 1910, and she was a 1923 graduate of Grinnell High School.

She was married to Dwight A. Sparks Feb. 14, 1928, at Marshalltown. The couple moved to Lynnville in 1933.

Mrs. Sparks is survived by two daughters, Frances Thomas of Fresno, Calif., and Marilyn Burnham of Grinnell; one son, Roger of Manassas, Va.; five grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, one brother and three sisters.

H-R March 19, 1990