

Bernice S. Capasso



GR H-R 4-15-10

Bernice Stemsrud Capasso, 90, of Ocala, Fla., formerly of Grinnell, died Saturday, April 10, 2010, at Sylvia's House Hospice in Ocala.

A graveside service will be held Friday, April 16, at 11 a.m. at Hazelwood Cemetery. Local arrangements are by Smith Funeral home.

Memorials may be made to Dollars for Scholars at Grinnell High School or the American Cancer Society.

She was born Sept. 2, 1919, the daughter of Berger and Mabel Stemsrud of Grinnell, the youngest of eight siblings. She was a 1937 graduate of Grinnell High School with emphasis on its commercial course after which she was a secretary for many years including from 1937 to 1941 in Grinnell and Brooklyn.

In December, 1941, she received a telegram to report to Washington, D.C., to work in the Pentagon secretarial pool, working there and in Detroit, Mich., until 1943 when she began work in the Chicago area. From 1952 until 1967 she worked as executive secretary to the director of research at Abbot Laboratories in North Chicago, Ill. She later worked for the state of Tennessee in Nashville.

She was united in marriage with Leslie Latz on April 12, 1944, in Sioux Falls, S.D. Following their divorce in 1986, she was united in marriage with Ernest Capasso in 1989.

She was a member of the Order of the Eastern Star, Sons of Norway, American Contract Bridge League the Ocala Duplicate Bridge Club.

She is survived by her son Jeff Latz of Leavenworth, Kan., and three grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husbands.