

HR 11/3/08

## Ellen M. Braaksma

Ellen Braaksma, 58, of Grinnell died Thursday, Oct. 30, 2008, at her home.

A funeral service will be held Tuesday, Nov. 4, at 10:30 a.m. at Smith Funeral Home. Visitation is taking place Monday at Smith Funeral Home with family members present to greet friends from 6 to 8 p.m.

HR 11/6/08

## Ellen M. Braaksma



Ellen M. Braaksma, 58, of Grinnell, died Thursday, Oct. 30, 2008, at her home.

A funeral service was held Tuesday, Nov. 4, 2008, at Smith Funeral Home with the Rev. John Saxton, chaplain of the Mayflower Community, officiating. Interment was in the Colfax Cemetery at Colfax. Memorials may be made to the Ellen M. Braaksma Memorial Fund, PO Box 368, Grinnell, Iowa 50112. Online condolences may be sent to the Braaksma family at [www.smithfh.com](http://www.smithfh.com).

She was born, the daughter of Edwin Russell and Doris Horn Russell, on Jan. 17, 1950, in Baxter. She was raised in Baxter and graduated from Baxter High School with the class of 1968. She was united in marriage with Robert Braaksma at the Ira Christian Church in Ira on April 14, 1973. The couple resided north of Toledo before moving to Grinnell in 1974. She was a certified

medical aide at St. Francis Manor, Friendship Manor, and the Mayflower Community.

She enjoyed attending garage sales, collecting frog figurines, baking and decorating for the holidays.

She is survived by her husband of 35 years, Robert Braaksma of Grinnell; her son, Jon Braaksma of St. Peter, Minn.; her brothers, Everett Russell and Donald Russell of Baxter, and her sisters, Millie Conger of West Point and Esther Grife of Newton. She was preceded in death by her parents and her sister, Rosemary Russell in 1965.

## Ellen M. Braaksma, 58

Nov 17, 2008  
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Memorials may be directed to the Ellen M. Braaksma Memorial Fund, P.O. Box 368, Grinnell, IA 50112. Online condolences may be sent to the Braaksma family at [www.smithfh.com](http://www.smithfh.com).

Ellen was born the daughter of Edwin Russell and Doris Horn Russell on Jan. 17, 1950, in Baxter. She was raised in Baxter and graduated from the Baxter High School with the class of 1968.

She was united in marriage to Robert Braaksma at the Ira Christian Church in Ira, on April 14, 1973. To this union was born their son, Jon. The couple resided north of Toledo, before moving to Grinnell in 1974. Ellen was a certified medical aide at St. Francis Manor, Friendship Manor, and the Mayflower Community.

Ellen had a great sense of humor and loved to sit and visit with her friends and family. She enjoyed a good cup of coffee in the morning, attending garage sales, collecting frog figurines, and baking and decorating for the holidays. She has long anticipated the birth of her first grandchild who will be born in the next few months.

Ellen is survived by her husband of 35 years, Robert Braaksma of Grinnell; her son, Jon (Karla) Braaksma of St. Peter, Minn.; her brothers, Everett (Linda) Russell of Baxter, Donald Russell of Baxter; and her sisters, Millie Conger of West Point, and Esther (Daryl) Grife of Newton.

Ellen was preceded in death by her parents, and her sister, Rosemary Russell, in 1965.