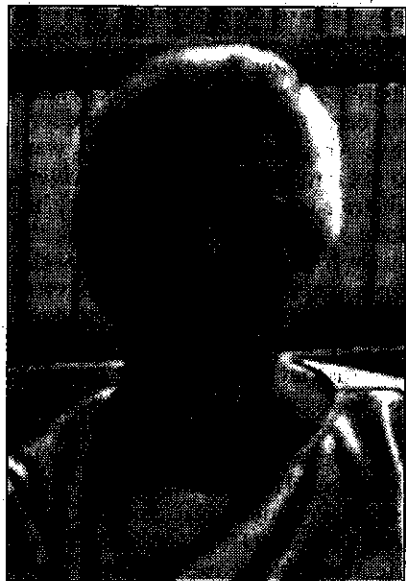


Karen Duncan



Karen Duncan, 71, of Grinnell, died Wednesday, Sept. 26, 2012, at Iowa Methodist Medical Center in Des Moines.

A funeral service was held Monday, Oct. 1, 2012, at Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell. Interment followed at Ivy Hill Cemetery, near Malcom.

Memorials may be directed to the Karen Duncan Memorial Fund.

Karen was born Nov. 20, 1940,

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in Grinnell to Raymond and Elaine Johnson Kirby. She attended and graduated from Brooklyn High School with the class of 1959. She worked at the Grinnell Herald-Register which is where she met her husband, Gerald Duncan. Their first date was Dec. 13, 1960, the Christmas party for the paper. They were wed on Feb. 12, 1961 in Brooklyn.

She enjoyed sewing and embroidering. Karen and Gerald ran a concession stand for Brooklyn Little League for over 17 years. She also worked at numerous health care facilities as a nurse's aide, and most recently worked in daycare. She enjoyed watching her grandchildren in all their activities.

Karen is survived by her husband of 51 years; Gerald Duncan of Grinnell; five children, Craig Duncan of Grinnell, LeAnn Winton of Newton, Ginger Burggraaf of Grinnell, Jolene Duncan of Murfreesboro, Tenn., and Wendy Duncan of Grinnell; four grandchildren; one foster son, Rocky Smith; one brother, Richard Kirby of Malcom; one sister, Patricia LaKose of Grabill, Ind., and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents and one brother, Dennis Kirby on Sept. 8, 2012.

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Karen Duncan, 71

10-3-2012

Karen Duncan, 71, of Grinnell, died on Wednesday, Sept. 26, 2012, at Iowa Methodist Medical Center in Des Moines.

A funeral service was held at 1 p.m., Monday, Oct. 1, at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell. Interment will follow at Ivy Hill Cemetery, near Malcom.

Memorials may be directed to the Karen Duncan Memorial Fund.

Karen was born on Nov. 20, 1940, in Grinnell, to Raymond and Elaine Johnson Kirby. She attended and graduated from Brooklyn High School, with the class of 1959. She worked at the Grinnell Herald Register and that is where she met her husband, Gerald Duncan. Their first date was Dec. 13, 1960, the Christmas party for the paper. They were wed on Feb. 12, 1961 in Brooklyn.

She enjoyed sewing and embroidering. Karen and Gerald ran a concession stand for Brooklyn Little League for over 17 years. She also worked at numerous health care facilities as a nurse's aide. Her greatest love was her grandchildren and she enjoyed watching them in all their activities. Karen's latest passion was helping take care of her extended grandchildren at daycare.

Karen is survived by her husband of 51 years, Gerald Duncan of Grinnell; five children, Craig Duncan of Grinnell, LeAnn (Kevin) Winton of Newton, Ginger (Arnold) Burggraaf of Grinnell, Jolene Duncan of Murfreesboro, Tenn., and Wendy Duncan of Grinnell; four grandchildren, Samantha Duncan, Brandon Burggraaf, Sophie Winton and Alex Winton; one foster son, Rocky Smith; one brother, Richard (Janet) Kirby of Malcom; one sister, Patricia (Mike) LaKose of Grabill, Ind.; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, and one brother, Dennis Kirby on Sept. 8, 2012.

