

6H-R  
1-15-2015

## Donnis Vergalene Horine Dawes

Donnis Vergalene Horine Dawes, 103, of Grinnell and formerly of Spirit Lake, died January 12, 2015, at St. Francis Manor in Grinnell. She would have turned 104 on February 17th.

A funeral service has been scheduled for 10:30 a.m. Thursday, January 15th, at the Grinnell United Methodist Church chapel with the Rev. Rose Blank officiating. Pianist will be Juli Bey. Graveside services and burial will be held at 1:00 p.m. Friday, January 16th, at the Memorial Gardens Cemetery in Spirit Lake.

Visitation with the family present will be held one hour prior to service time at the church.

Memorial contributions may be directed towards the Okoboji United Methodist Campground.

Donnis was born February 17, 1911, at her home in Rigdon, Indiana, the daughter of Frank and Wrennie Downs Horine.

She received her public education in the rural elementary schools and then attended the Elwood High School and graduated from the Fairmont, Indiana, High School. She attended Taylor University for three years, but because of the Depression, she had to discontinue her studies.

She was united in marriage with Harrison G. Dawes on February 18, 1933 in Point Isabelle, Indiana. Two sons were born to this union.

Donnis thoroughly enjoyed gardening with her husband as well as tending her flower garden, which was a point of interest for many individuals, near and far. Their large garden was full of all types of vegetables, spurred on with the rich residue from their active compost. As they worked in their garden, they were occasionally bombarded by the wrens housed in a wren house nearby on their garage, but that didn't deter their efforts.

Donnis spent a great deal of time planting and raising her double-Iris, which filled the complete end of their garden. It was such a beautiful sight that a college art class came with their canvass to paint the entire scene. Many people would drive by very slowly to absorb this captivating sight.

Donnis also spent an inordinate amount of time crocheting and knitting. Her hallway closet was filled with the afghans she crocheted which went to family members and others. Many of them were sold at the Rossie United Church of Christ auction, a fund-raising event at the church. Harrison however did not want her to sell an attractive red afghan which he adored, so he would buy it back. She always bought the best yarn available for these projects.

Her culinary skills were enjoyed by her family and other friends. They entertained many people through the years in their home, including staff members from the churches Harrison pastored. Fried chicken was always a favorite!

Donnis and Harrison were heavily involved in the activities of the Okoboji United Methodist Camp. Donnis served as the chair of the Women's Society of Christian Service Dining Hall at the campsite, which included renovating the Dining Hall and securing college employees for the summer dining hall meals.

Survivors include two sons and their spouses, Gilbert and Inez Dawes of Indianola and Delbert and Carolyn Dawes of Grinnell; seven grandchildren, Greg Dawes, Rebecca Dawes, Lynn Kuchemann, Michele Costigan, Jeffrey Ireland, Juli Agan and Jessica Ireland; and 14 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents; five brothers and her husband, Harrison.



GRINNELL RESIDENT

PCR 1-21-2015

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