

Elizabeth Ann Gray Bohstedt



4-R JUNE 23, 2005

Elizabeth Ann Gray Bohstedt, 80, of Grinnell, died Wednesday, June 22, at her home.

Funeral services will be held Monday, June 27, at 11 a.m. at the First Baptist Church in Grinnell with the Rev. Tim Stewart officiating. A luncheon will be held after the service for all who attend. Burial will follow in the Hazelwood Cemetery in Grinnell.

Visitation hours will be held from 12 noon to 8 p.m. on Sunday, June 26, at the Smith Funeral Home, with the family present from 2 to 4 p.m. Memorial contributions may be directed to the First Baptist Church in Grinnell. Friends may send the Bohstedt family condolence messages by submitting them on the Smith Funeral Home website at www.smithfh.com

She was born on July 26, 1924, in Eldora to Dr. Ralph and Malie Gray. She grew up in Eldora and graduated as valedictorian of her 1942 high school class. She attended Wheaton College, Wheaton, Ill., for two years. She moved to Grinnell when she married Edward Bohstedt on August 11, 1944. Their first home, at 911 High Street, was built by the bridegroom. In 1950, as their family increased in size, they moved into a new home which Edward built at 1325 West St. Their last move was in 1983 to their dream home on East Street, designed by Anne and built by son Ralph on the family farmstead where Edward grew up, one-half mile south of Grinnell.

Her faith and family were foremost in her life. She was an active member of the First Baptist Church of Grinnell and taught the kindergarten Sunday School for many years. She held local and regional offices in the American Baptist Women's Association. She and Edward led mission tour groups to Zaire, Kenya, Europe, Iron Curtain countries, and Central America.

She was involved for many years with the Grinnell Camp Fire Girls, including terms as Board President. She was also a member of D.A.R., Daughters of American Colonists, P.E.O. for 62 years, and the Audubon Society. She enjoyed reading, traveling, bird watching, flowers and nature.

She is survived by her three children: daughters Cynthia Kenyon of Portland, Ore., and Claudia Bloom of La Mirada, Calif.; son Ralph Bohstedt of Grinnell; four grandchildren; two step grandchildren; and four step great-grandchildren.