

Mabel M. Staecker



Mabel M. Staecker, 86, died on Thursday, Nov. 3, at her home in Iowa City.

Funeral services for Mabel Staecker were held at 11 a.m. Monday, Nov. 7, at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell, with the Rev. Paul Akin, lead pastor of the First United Methodist Church in Iowa City, officiating. Pallbearers included John and Keith Davis, Mike Hotchkin, Richard McGee, Dick Roe and Jim White. Burial was in Hazelwood Cemetery in Grinnell.

She was born Aug. 31, 1919, near Kellogg, the daughter of James and Ollie Clinkenbeard Johnson. Following the death of her mother in 1924, she was raised by a great-aunt in Mendota, Mo., for several years. She returned to the Grinnell area and attended rural schools in the Blue Point neighborhood and in rural Brooklyn.

On Nov. 16, 1935, she married James Caldwell in Oskaloosa. The couple had one daughter, Olivia. The marriage later ended in divorce. On May 16, 1953, she married Eugene Staecker in Grinnell. They were parents of another daughter, Cindy.

She was employed at Grinnell Shoe Company for 27 years, then at DeLong Sportswear for another 23 years. She retired in 1986.

She was a member of the American Legion Auxiliary and the V.F.W. Auxiliary.

She is survived by two daughters, Olivia Caldwell Franklin of Vero Beach, Fla., and Cindy Cameron of Iowa City; eight grandchildren; and 14 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents; both her husbands; four brothers, Francis, Leroy and Virgil Johnson and George Bunker; a sister, Stella Beattie; and a grandson.

H-R NOV. 7, 2005