

OBITUARIES

GRINNELL RESIDENT

Betty J. Bettenga, 79



Betty J. Bettenga, age 79, of Grinnell, passed peacefully from this life on Saturday, February 11, 2017, at St. Francis Manor in Grinnell.

A celebration of her life was held Thursday, February 16 at the Calvary Baptist Church in Grinnell with Pastor Don Johnston officiating. A graveside service Thursday afternoon at the Hudson Cemetery in Hudson, Iowa.

Visitation was Wednesday at the Smith Funeral Home and her family greeted friends Wednesday evening.

Memorials may be designated to the Betty J. Bettenga Memorial Fund and mailed in care of the Smith Funeral Home, P.O. Box 368, Grinnell, Iowa 50112. Condolences may be shared with her family online at www.smithfh.com.

Betty Jean Plum was born the daughter of Ernest and Sarah (Thatcher) Plum on November 10, 1937, in Marshalltown, Iowa. She was raised in the Dike and Tripoli, Iowa areas and graduated from Tripoli High School with the class of 1956. She attended Baptist Bible Seminary in New York.

On December 28, 1963, Betty was united in marriage to Harris Henry

Bettenga in Waterloo, Iowa. The couple lived in Waterloo, IA, Rockford, IL, and Jesup, IA, respectively. They moved to Grinnell in 1983, and Betty was employed at Friendship Manor Care Center and at St. Francis Manor in Grinnell. She also worked as a private CNA in Grinnell. She was a longtime member of the Calvary Baptist Church in Grinnell.

Betty's family and faith were her life. She loved the holidays when the family would gather at her home. She was an avid gardener and an excellent cook, who was famous for her apple pies. She was a talented seamstress who enjoyed knitting and sewing. She will be remembered as being passionate, joyful, selfless, and for the love of her family.

Betty is survived by her children, Paul (Paulette) Bettenga of Hanover, Michigan, Becky (Dave) Watkins of Pella, Mark (Renee) Bettenga of Cedar Rapids and Julie (Brian) Heater of Grinnell; seven grandchildren, Jonathan and Benjamin Bettenga, Luke Sease, Ryan and Brayden Bettenga and Garrett and Dylan Heater; and two sisters, Viola Price of Oelwein, Iowa and Dorothy Clayman of Sanford, Michigan.

She was preceded in death by her parents; brother, Ernie Plum Jr.; and daughter, Debra Bettenga in infancy.

Betty J. Bettenga 64-R 2-16-2017



Betty J. Bettenga, age 79, of Grinnell, passed peacefully from this life on Saturday, February 11, 2017, at St. Francis Manor in Grinnell.

A celebration of her life was held at 10:00 a.m., Thursday, February 16, at the Calvary Baptist Church in Grinnell with Pastor Don Johnston officiating. A graveside service was held at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday at the Hudson Cemetery in Hudson, Iowa.

Visitation began at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday at the Smith Funeral Home and her family

greeted friends from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m., Wednesday evening.

Memorials may be designated to the Betty J. Bettenga Memorial Fund and mailed in care of the Smith Funeral Home, PO Box 368, Grinnell, Iowa 50112. Condolences may be shared with her family online at www.smithfh.com.

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She was preceded in death by her parents; brother, Ernie Plum Jr.; and daughter, Debra Bettenga in infancy.

Betty J. Bettenga 64-R 2-13-

Betty J. Bettenga, 79, of Grinnell, died Saturday, Feb. 11, 2017, at St. Francis Manor in Grinnell.

A celebration of her life will be held at 10 a.m., Thursday, Feb. 16 at the Calvary Baptist Church in Grinnell. A graveside service will be held at 2 p.m. on Thursday at the Hudson Cemetery in Hudson, Iowa.

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