

Helen Weaver ^{GH-R} ¹¹⁻²⁷⁻²⁶⁻²⁰¹⁸



Helen Weaver, 95, of Gilman, passed away peacefully on Monday, November 19, 2018, in the warm embrace of her much loved and loving family.

A funeral service was held at 1:00 p.m., Saturday, November 24, 2018, at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell with the Rev. Linda Myren, pastor of Gilman United Church of Christ, officiating. Interment was at Prairie View Cemetery in Gilman.

Visitation was held prior to her service from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell.

Helen Rinnan was born to Lorenz and Anna (Heng) Rinnan of Gilman on June 1, 1923. She was the last of her sibling generation of three brothers and three sisters. Helen graduated from Gilman High School in 1941 and the Deaconess Evangelical School of Nursing in Marshalltown as a registered nurse in 1944.

Helen and Arthur Weaver married in 1944 just prior to his military training and overseas deployment. Upon discharge Art and Helen settled into farming in the Gilman area in partnership with his brother Robert for the next 41 years. Helen's career took off as a dedicated wife and mother to eight children, achieving her fondest dream in the process. The housecleaning, laundry, cooking, and chicken dressing were lesser parts of the dream. Her children extended the dream to 12 grandchildren and 24 great grandchildren.

Fishing was a favorite family togetherness pastime with countless trips with family and friends to Canada, Minnesota, and locally to Rock Creek State Park. Summer nighttime patrols for earthworms in the lawn became rituals. Helen had the fishing touch.

Helen is survived by her children: Steven (Mary) Weaver of New Virginia, Dennis (Paula) Weaver of Gilman, Carol (Joe) Anderson of Gilman, John (Dona Kromhout) Weaver of Grinnell and The Netherlands, Don Weaver of Earlham, Christine (Jay) Gaunt of Grinnell, Carla Weaver of Gilman, and Connie (Bob) Kellogg of Mitchellville, and sisters-in-law Pat Rinnan (Rockford, Ill.) and Darlene Spencer (San Antonio, Texas).

The family will always cherish Helen's everlasting kindness, steadfast love for and pride in her family, and her slightly mischievous sense of humor continuing into her final days.

The family deeply appreciates the care provided by Dr. Laura Graham and the staffs of Grinnell Regional Hospice and Windsor Manor. Memorials may be designated to the Helen Weaver Memorial Fund, mailed in care of the Smith Funeral Home, PO Box 368, Grinnell, Iowa 50112. Memories and condolences may be shared with the family online at www.smithfh.com.