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12-16-2019

Barbara Ellen (Starrett) Ashby

Barbara Ellen (Starrett) Ashby died peacefully at the Newton Village Health Care Center in Newton on Wednesday, December 11, 2019. Per Barb's wishes, there will be no formal services. Her remains will be buried in the family plot at the Bethel Cemetery in Lynnvile, Iowa, at a later date.

Barb was born December 6, 1923, in Newton, Iowa, to Ross and Rubie (Hart) Starrett. She was a 1942 graduate of Newton Senior High School. That same year she married Stanley T. Ashby of Grinnell.

Barbara was preceded in death by her parents; her husband of 72 years, Stanley T. Ashby; two daughters, Connie Nelson in 2007 and Caroline in infancy; her brother, Eldon "Bud" Starrett; her sister, Janice Starrett Barber; and her son-in-law, Ronald Nelson.

She is survived by her son, Larry (Roxanna) Ashby of Newton; granddaughter, Johnna Ellen (Mark) Donahue of Colfax; grandson, Casey Nelson and his fiancée, Sophia Snapp of Des Moines; and her two great-grandchildren, Charlotte Ashby Donahue of Colfax and Olivia Constance Nelson of Des Moines. She is also survived by her two dedicated and special friends, Sonja Hull of Newton, and Barbara Tinenko of Kellogg.

