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12-21-28-2020

Anna Louise Wilkins

Anna Louise Wilkins, 79, of Grinnell died peacefully at her home, surrounded by her family and while under hospice care, on December 22, 2020.

A time and date of her memorial service will be determined at a later date.

Memorial contributions may be designated to Grinnell United Methodist Church or Hospice of the Midwest, 629 West Street South, Suite 100, Grinnell, Iowa 50112.

Louise was born on June 11, 1941, at her parent's home, near Grinnell; she was the daughter of Paul Joseph and Anna Luella Figland Latcham. She grew up on the family farm in the Ewart area. She received her education in a country school near her home and in the Ewart Public Schools, prior to graduating from Grinnell High School with the Class of 1959.

On December 5, 1959, Louise was married to Robert Larry Wilkins, in Grinnell. The couple farmed in Chester Township for many years and later moved to their acreage west of Grinnell in 1982. They were married for nearly 58 years before Bob died in 2017 and they raised two children together.

Louise had always known the value of hard work and this was evident by her long history of various employment. Early in life, she was employed as a clerk for the D.O.T. and as a phone operator for G.T.E. For 33 years, she was active with her husband on their farm and running a successful farm operation, all while raising their family. She later had her wallpaper and painting business and worked as a cook at the Grinnell Country Club, St. Francis Manor, and Grinnell Regional Medical Center. Lastly, she ran a children's day care center from her home. She had stated this was a happy time for her and Bob.

She was a member of the Grinnell United Methodist Church.

Louise held a great love and devotion for her family; sharing time with her grandchildren was always special. She enjoyed watching sports and attending all her family activities, including Tammy's and Chad's sporting events in high school. She and Bob, as parents, held a deep appreciation for all their children's talents. Gardening and canning her produce, cooking and baking, bird-watching, traveling, and studying genealogy were all passions of hers.

Those left to honor her memory include two children, Tammy Louise (Terry) Denemark of Monticello and Chad Robert (Faith) Wilkins of Altoona; three grandchildren, Lauryl Wilkins of Altoona, Kassie Wilkins of Marshalltown, and Peyton Denemark of Monticello; one great-grandchild, Christopher Wilkins of Altoona; one brother, Allen L. (Sheila) Latcham of Grinnell; her brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Jim and Suzanne Wilkins of Grinnell; and several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Bob (2017); and her brother and sister-in-law, Leonard (2008) and Betty (2011) Latcham.