

Mary Ellen Collinge ^{6H-2}

1926 - 1921

3-22-2021



PENFIELD, NY: Mary Ellen (Watt) Collinge of Penfield, NY, and formerly of Grinnell, died March 11, 2021, at age 94.

Born in 1926 in Storm Lake, Iowa, Mary Ellen graduated from Storm Lake High School in 1944 and then moved to Grinnell when her parents, Lawrence and Hazel Watt, purchased The Grinnell Herald-Register. She attended Grinnell College her freshman year, then transferred to

Iowa State in Ames where she earned B.S. in Home Economics, there following in the footsteps of her two older sisters. Mary Ellen later earned an M.S. from Ohio State, also in home economics, in 1950. She married James Collinge at Grinnell College's Herrick Chapel on Sept. 30, 1951.

Mary Ellen practiced as a home economist before "retiring" to raise a family. Later, she had a number of volunteer roles including serving on the boards of the Rochester Presbyterian Home and the Penfield Public Library, where she was president for a term. Mary Ellen also volunteered for Webster Presbyterian Church, the Camp Fire Girls, Literacy Volunteers, and on the Penfield Trail Committee. She was a proud member of P.E.O. Sisterhood, and enjoyed walking with the Wednesday Hikers and traveling.

Mary Ellen is survived by her son Peter (Carol Thiel), and daughters Joanne "Jody" and Janet; grandson Joseph Weygant; and many nieces and nephews. She is predeceased by her husband, James Collinge; her parents Lawrence and Hazel Watt; and her sisters Dorothy and Elizabeth.

A memorial service will be held at a future date. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Webster (NY) Presbyterian Church Endowment Fund or to the Penfield (NY) Public Library.