

Wilma Maxine Phipps



Wilma Maxine Phipps, 78 of Grinnell, formerly of Searsboro, died Tuesday, June 26, 2007, at St. Francis Manor.

A funeral service will be held Saturday, June 30, at 10:30 a.m. at

Smith Funeral Home with George Edgerly, pastor of First Assembly of God, and the Rev. Susan Leathem, chaplain of Grinnell Regional Hospice, officiating. Organist will be Vickie Reaves and vocalist will be Rhonda Minner. Pallbearers will be Dave, Duane, Curt and Glen Phipps, Chris Vitek and Barry Bennington. Honorary bearers will be Ron and Steve Belcher, Jack, Jim, John and Richard Phipps, Jarrin Sedlock and Bill Shepard. Burial will be in Rock Creek Cemetery, rural Grinnell. Visitation will be held Friday from 12 noon to 8 p.m. at Smith Funeral Home with family members present from 6 to 8 p.m. Memorials may be made to the Wilma Maxine Phipps Memorial Fund.

She was born Dec. 31, 1928, in Exline, Iowa, the daughter of Cyrus Albert and Maggie Jane Emperley Large. She received her education in the Exline and Centerville School Districts. On Oct. 7, 1944, she was married to Bert L. Phipps in Montezuma. The couple lived in Grinnell prior to moving to Searsboro in 1972. She returned to Grinnell in 2001. She had been employed at King Laundry in Grinnell in the early 1950s and later as a cook at Shell Diner during the 1970s. She was a faithful member of the Assembly of God in Grinnell.

She is survived by four sons, David Phipps and Curtis Phipps of Searsboro, Duane Phipps and Glenn Phipps of Grinnell; 23 grandchildren; 27 great grandchildren; two brothers, John Large of Searsboro and Dean Alter of Kellogg; four sisters, Nellie Maye Davis, Anna Belle Belcher, and Bonnie Halterman, all of Grinnell, and Nelma McGuire of Wayland. She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband; four sons, Wade, Kenneth, Bert "Bertie" and Danny Phipps; one grandchild Robert Phipps and one great grandchild, Kelsie Yoakum.

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