Sandra E. Mintle



Sandra E. Mintle, 62, of Grinnell died Sunday, Feb. 15, 2009, at Grinnell Regional Medical Center.

A memorial service was held Thursday, Feb. 19, 2009, at the United Methodist Church in Grinnell with the Rev. Len Eberhart, pastor of the church, officiating. Visitation was held prior to the service at the church. Memorials may be made to the Sandra E. Mintle Memorial Fund, PO Box 368, Grinnell, Iowa 50112. Condolences may be submitted to the Mintle family on the Smith Funeral Home web site at www.smithfh.com.

She was born, the daughter of Commander William and Dorothy Angelo Smith, on July 12, 1946, in Pensacola, Fla. Her father was a pilot in the United States Navy and the family moved frequently throughout her youth. She graduated from Fairfax High School in Fairfax, Va., with the class of 1964. Upon graduating from high school, she spent a year backpacking throughout Europe. She returned to the United States and attended American University in Washington D.C., and was em-

ployed at the Pentagon.

She was united in marriage with Steven Mintle in Boulder, Colo., on Dec. 28, 1977. They moved to Grinnell in 1976 and began farming. She earned the Associate degree from Marshalltown Community College and a Bachelor of Arts degree from Buena Vista University. She then taught part time at Marshalltown Community College and Kirkwood Community College. She continued her education by receiving the Master of Arts degree from Drake University in Des Moines. She began working at American Enterprise Insurance Company in Des Moines in 1995 and eventually became director of human resources there. She also had worked part time at Stewart Library and at the Grinnell Herald Register.

Sandy is survived by her husband of 31 years, Steven Mintle of Grinnell; her daughters, Samantha Mintle of Des Moines and Rachel Mintle of San Diego, Calif.; her sister, Stephanie Kirwan of Des Moines; her niece, Daron Harvey of Phoenix, Ariz; and her nephew, Patrick Kirwan of Grinnell. She was preceded in death by her parents and her sister, Deborah Harvey.

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A memorial service was held at 11 a.m. on Thursday, Feb. 19, at the United Methodist Church in Grinnell with the Rev. Len Eberhart, pastor of the United Methodist Church, officiating.

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Sandy was united in marriage to Steven Mintle in Boulder, Colo., on Dec. 28, 1977. To this union were born their daughters, Samantha and Rachel. The couple moved to Grinnell in 1976, and began farming together. Sandy earned an associate's degree from Marshalltown Community College and a bachelor of arts degree from Buena Vista University. She then taught part time at Marshalltown Community College and Kirkwood Community College. Sandy continued her education by receiving her master's degree from Drake University in Des Moines. She began working at American Enterprise Insurance Company in Des Moines in 1995, and eventually became director of human resources there. She worked part time at Stewart Library and also at the Grinnell Herald Register.

Sandy was known for her sense of humor, and her love for animals, especially horses. She was an excellent writer and enjoyed drafting fiction novels. She loved traveling to Colorado to breathe the fresh air and to take in the beauty of the mountains. Her enjoyments included reading, camping at Lake Rathbun and Lake Mc-Conaughy, storytelling, and a quiet campfire in the backyard.

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