

HR Nov. 20, 2008

Obituaries

Shirley L. Steele



Shirley L. Steele, 76, of Grinnell died Monday, Nov. 17, 2008, at her home.

A funeral service will be held Friday, Nov. 21, at 1 p.m. at Smith Funeral Home with Dave Shearer, pastor of the Church of Christ in Marshalltown, officiating. Casket bearers will be Steve Clark, Dwayne Kriegel, Howard McDonough, Rick Novinger, John Robson, Bill Steele, Greg Steele, Ron Steele, and Mike Van Egdom. Interment will be in Hazelwood Cemetery. Friends may call at Smith Funeral Home beginning at 12 noon Thursday with family members present from 6 to 8 p.m. Her family also will receive relatives and friends for lunch from 11 a.m. to

12:30 p.m., Friday, at Veterans Memorial Building in Grinnell.

Memorials may be directed to PALS or to Stewart Library and sent in care of Smith Funeral Home.

She was born May 29, 1932, in Stahl Township, Putnam County, Missouri, to Ernest and Cassie May Lawrence. She was raised on the family farm and attended rural school. Following the death of her father and brother she assisted her mother with raising her siblings and working summers in Grinnell.

On Jan. 11, 1953, she was united in marriage Warner Steele in Milan, Mo. The couple made their home in Grinnell and she worked at Grinnell College, the Grinnell Shoe Company, Ritter's Hardware Store, the White Spot, and McCammant's Antique Store. She also assisted her husband as a bookkeeper for the family landscaping business.

She was a member of the Church of Christ who enjoyed gardening, canning, cooking, needle work and reading. She was an avid writer and her writings were published in several periodicals. She was extremely proud of her poetry and won several awards.

Survivors include one son, Terry Steele of Grinnell; one daughter, Cheri Robson of Grinnell; four granddaughters; three sisters, Annabelle Novinger of Novinger, Mo., Phyllis Sitton of Grinnell and Charlotte Van Egdom of Montour, and one brother, Jerry Lawrence of Kansas City, Mo. She was preceded in death by her husband; her parents; two brothers, Ernest "Bud" and Rodney Lawrence; and three sisters, Janet See, Pansy Willingham and Loetta See.