Velma Burnham

Velma Burnham, 92, of Grinnell died Sunday, April 28, at St. Francis Manor.

Funeral services were conducted Wednesday at the Smith Funeral Home, with the Rev. Howard Lord officiating. Organist was Margaret Wheeler. Pallbearers were her grandsons, Dennis Willer, Bruce Burnham, Richard Willer, Ronald Iverson, David Willer and Leslie Iverson.

Burial was in Westfield Cemetery. Memorial contributions in Mrs. Burnham's name may be made to the Westfield Cemetery Association.

She was the daughter of Luther and Esther Ann Rayl Stanley and was born Nov. 17, 1903, in Richland Township, Jasper County. She attended the Black Oak School and, later, Grinnell High School. She was a graduate of William Penn Academy in Oskaloosa and taught in several rural schools in Jasper County.

She was married to William Thomas Burnham Feb. 1, 1928, in Stuart. The couple farmed in Jasper County for several years before moving to the Westfield community in 1944. She had lived in Grinnell since 1979.

Mrs. Burnham was a member of the Sugar Creek Friends Church, Westfield Church and First Friends Church in Grinnell and was also a member of the Westfield Ladies Aid.

Surviving are her children, Gladys Iverson of Grinnell, Doris Willer of Knoxville and Robert of Grinnell; nine grandchildren; and 26 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband; two sisters, Dessell Stanley and Lucille Ashby; three brothers, Orville, Myrlin and Ralph Stanley; and one grandson.

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