

Edith Coyle

Edith Poots Coyle, 90, of Grinnell, formerly a long-time resident of Cherokee, died Wednesday, Feb. 20, at Grinnell Regional Medical Center.

A private family graveside service was held Friday at Bethel Cemetery southwest of Grinnell, with the Rev. Del Dawes, pastor of the Grinnell United Methodist Church, officiating. The Smith Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

The daughter of Robert J. and Ethel Fleener Poots, she was born July 26, 1911, in Poweshiek County. She was raised in the Grinnell area and was a graduate of Grinnell High School. She received a B.A. degree from Drake University.

She taught in rural schools for several years at Stuart and Grand Junction and later was an elementary school teacher in the Cherokee School District. She retired from teaching in 1978.

She was married to Chester Benson July 22, 1937, in Grinnell. Mr. Benson died in 1978. She was married to Valentine "Jake" Coyle in 1976.

Mrs. Coyle had lived in Cherokee from 1957 until returning to Grinnell several weeks ago. She was a member of St. Paul's Methodist Church in Cherokee.

Surviving are three sons, Denzel Benson of Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, Gordon Benson of Cedar Falls and Arlon Benson of Scottsdale, Ariz.; five sisters, Vivian Braley of Okaloosa, Ruth Davitt of Sun City, Ariz., Ardyce Burkhammer and Jeanette Poots, both of Los Angeles; and Dorothy Dougher of Des Moines; and two grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, one brother and two sisters.

An Edith P. Coyle Memorial Fund has been established.

2-25-2002