

Helen Olson Rites Today

10/21/73

Helen Saunders Olson, 64, of Sun City, Calif., formerly of Grinnell, the widow of Omar L. Olson, died late Sunday evening, Oct. 21, at the Hemet Valley Hospital in Hemet, Calif.

The daughter of Edward and Mary Alice Ivey Saunders, she was born May 26, 1909, in Manilla, Iowa. She attended the Manilla public schools and was graduated from Manilla High School with the class of 1927. She attended Morningside College in Sioux City from 1927 to 1929 and was graduated from Grinnell College with the class of 1931, receiving a B.M. degree in public school music.

On May 26, 1932, she was married to Omar L. Olson at Manilla. The couple had one son, Wayne Alan Olson of Grinnell.

Mrs. Olson taught in public schools in Deep River from 1931 to 1934, in Maileom from 1942 to 1943, and in Grinnell from 1943 to 1959 and again from 1962 to 1964. She had attended the University of Iowa, receiving her teaching certificate in English, and had also attended Drake University.

She was a member of the Grinnell United Church of Christ-Congregational, the contemporary literature group at the church, and Beulah Chapter No. 47 of the Order of Eastern Star.

She is survived by her son Wayne; two grandchildren, Elizabeth Elaine Olson and Inger Loraine Olson, both of Grinnell; three sisters, Mrs. Lillian Hughes of Cedar Rapids, Mrs. Lida Kolp of Ida Grove, and Mrs. Mary Vrana of Manilla; one brother, Harry Saunders of Manilla; and several cousins, nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband Omar, who died Nov. 17, 1969; her parents; two sisters; and one brother.

Funeral services for Mrs. Olson were held at 2 p.m. today (Thursday) at the United Church of Christ-Congregational, with the Rev. Lowell E. Davis, pastor of the church, officiating. Organist was Miriam Davis, and bearers included James R. Ho Jr., Edgar McCracken, Harold Olson, Lloyd Olson, Richard Saunders, and Harvey Adie. Burial was in Hazelwood Cemetery, with the Beth Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

Should friends desire, memorials in Mrs. Olson's name may be made to the Art Memorial Fund, in care of Helen Hargrave, Grinnell State Bank.