

Velda L. Rutherford



H-R JUNE 27, 2005

Velda L. Rutherford, 76, of Grinnell died Wednesday, June 22, at St. Francis Manor in Grinnell

A memorial service for Velda Rutherford will be held at 7 p.m. today (Monday, June 27) at the Smith Fu-

neral Home in Grinnell with the Rev. Len Eberhart officiating. Honorary bearers will include her grandchildren. Burial will be held privately before the service at Pleasant Township Cemetery in Ewart.

A visitation will be held from 1 to 8 p.m. today at the Smith Funeral Home. The family will be present from 5 to 7 p.m.

She was the daughter of Ralph Larsen and Irene Murphy, born March 13, 1929, in Grinnell. She was raised and educated in Grinnell and graduated with GHS's class of 1947.

She married Robert Martin Rutherford on June 4, 1949, at her parent's home in Grinnell. The couple had four children - Rebecca, Stephen, David and Mark.

Her work life included stints at Davidson's clothing store in Grinnell and the local Maid-Rite restaurant, plus 25 years at Spurgeon's, a clothing and general merchandise store. During her years there, she was often referred to as the "candy lady," and always made sure her grandchildren and friends were supplied with candy.

She enjoyed reading, dancing, travel and attending events in which her grandchildren participated.

She is survived by her husband; her children, Rebecca Edelen of Brooklyn and Stephen Rutherford and Mark Rutherford, both of Grinnell; nine grandchildren; one great-grandchild; a sister, Joanne Dimit of Grinnell, and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents and her son, David.

Should friends desire, memorial contributions may be directed to the Alzheimer's Association or to Dollars for Scholars.

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A memorial was held at 7 p.m. Monday, June 27, at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell, with the Rev. Len Eberhart officiating.

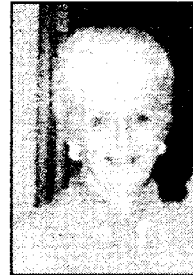
Honorary bearers were her grandchildren.

Inurnment was held privately at Pleasant Township Cemetery in Ewart before the service.

Velda, the daughter of Ralph Larsen and Irene Murphy, was born March 13, 1929, in Grinnell. She was raised and educated in Grinnell, and she graduated from Grinnell High School in 1947.

Velda married Robert Martin Rutherford on June 4, 1949, at her parents' home in Grinnell. The couple had four children: Rebecca, Stephen, David and Mark.

Velda was employed with Davidson's clothing store in Grinnell, the Grinnell Maid-Rite for several years, and at Spurgeon's clothing store for 25 years. During her association with Spurgeon's, Velda was often referred to as the "Candy Lady" since she made sure her grandchildren and their friends were supplied with candy.



Velda enjoyed reading, keeping everyone supplied with paperback books. She loved dancing, and she enjoyed modeling vintage clothing with Alice. She also enjoyed traveling and vacationing with Carroll and Carolyn. Velda and Bob rarely missed an event in which their grandchildren participated.

Velda is survived her husband, Bob, of Grinnell; her daughter, Rebecca (Joe) Edelen of Brooklyn; her son, Stephen (Pat) Rutherford of Grinnell; her son, Mark (Vickie) Rutherford of Grinnell; her grandchildren, Michael, Jonathan, Karin and Brian Edelen, and Sara, Amanda and Todd Rutherford, and Holli and Nicholas Rutherford; her great-grandchild, Cameron Farmer; her sister, Joanne Dimit, of Grinnell; and several nieces and nephews.

Velda was preceded in death by her parents and her son, David.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Alzheimer's Association or to Dollars for Scholars.

Condolences may be submitted to the Smith Funeral Home Web site at www.smithfh.com.

JUNE 29, 2005

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