

Tem Phay



Tem Phay, 71, of Grinnell, died on Sunday, June 9, 2013, at Grinnell Health Care Center in Grinnell.

A traditional Buddhist service will be held at 2 p.m., Friday, June 14, at Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell with cremation to follow the service.

Friends may call at the funeral home beginning at 9 a.m. on Friday and the family will be present at the funeral home from 12 noon to 2 p.m. on Friday.

Tem was born on Oct. 6, 1941, in Kampong Saom, which is located on the Gulf of Thailand in southwest Cambodia. Her parents died when she was young and she was raised by her grandmother and worked for a local family doing housework. She was married to Kut Khann in Cambodia and they were the parents of twelve children. Following the death of her husband she later married Tom Phay. The couple moved to the United States in 1986 and they settled in Des Moines. She worked for the W.P. Johnston Company. She moved to Grinnell in 2009.

Tem was raised in the Buddhist faith but also attended the Assembly of God Church in Des Moines.

She is survived by one son, Thoeun Khann of Gilman; one daughter who lives in Cambodia; one grandson; and one granddaughter.

She was preceded in death by both of her husbands; her parents; and ten children.

GH-R 6-13-2013