

GHR 8-4-11

E. Irene Bailey



E. Irene Bailey, 86, of Frankfort, Ind., and formerly of Grinnell, died July 29, 2011, at Clinton House in Frankfort.

Services were held Wednesday, Aug. 3, at Genda Funeral Home, with Pastor Ed Pearson officiating. Burial was in Bunnell Cemetery. Memorials may be made to Trinity Methodist Church in Frankfort. On-line condolences may be directed to gendafuneralhome.com.

She was born Oct. 16, 1924, in Marshall County, the daughter of Carroll J. and Avis Kilmer Billman. She graduated from State Center High School with the Class of 1942, and was united in marriage with W. Ralph Bailey in June of that same year.

She worked as a secretary for the Grinnell Shoe Factory, then the couple moved from Grinnell to Frankfort in 1960. There, Irene assisted her husband in running Bailey's Shoe Department in the Thrasher's Building. She also worked as a seamstress, most recently at Classic Collections in Frankfort, Ind.

She was a member of Trinity Methodist Church, and a former member of the Rebeccas and the Junior Mother's Club.

She is survived by her husband; her sons Bruce of Daleville, Ind., and Hal of Elwood, Ind.; her daughter Judy A. Pitman of Frankfort; seven grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; a sister, Sarah Grapper of Kansas; and two brothers, Elmer Billman of Minnesota and Marvin Billman of Iowa.

She was preceded in death by her parents; one grandson; and her sister, Wilma Kinzibach.