

Fern Whannell, 73

Jan. 17, 1926 - Sept. 16, 1999

BOONE - Fern Whannell was born Jan. 17, 1926, in Callender, daughter of Albert and Edith (Blake) Stewart. She was a 1945 graduate of Callender High School. She attended Buena Vista College in Storm Lake and Iowa Teachers College in Cedar Falls. She was an elementary teacher of the rural school at Fairview and later in the public school at Harlan, until 1955. From 1965 to 1972, the couple lived in Callender and Boxholm area before moving to Boone in 1974. For 23 years, from 1974 until 1997, she was a daycare provider for young children in Boone. She liked working with children through her teaching, childcare and by she and her husband being foster parents and providing foster care to children in need of a caring home. She was a member of the First United Methodist Church in Boone. She died at the Boone County Hospital Sept. 16, 1999, due to complications from a stroke at age 73.

Her parents and two brothers, Earl and Seibert Stewart, preceded her in death. Survivors include her husband, Paul; three daughters, Paula Whannell of Coralville; Luann Whannell of Spokane, WA; Joan Gomez (Tim) of Winterset; one son, Scott Whannell (Bobbie Jo) of Spokane, WA; three grandsons, Andrew Gomez of Winterset; Nathan Whannell and Aaron Whannell both of Spokane, WA; six sisters, Dorothy Babian of Athens, TN; Elsie Swanson of Callender; Lois Dorothy, Gladys Stewart and Christelle Essig all of Ft. Dodge; Marlene Garman of Ely; two brothers, Donald Stewart of Ft. Dodge; Ernest (Bud) Stewart of Callender, and nieces and nephews.

Services were held Sept. 21, 1999, at the First United Methodist Church in Boone, with Rev. Rose Blank officiating. Burial was in the Linwood Park Cemetery in Boone.