

*For those I love, For those who love me:  
(Author Unknown)*

*When I am gone, release me, let me go...  
I have so many things to see and do.  
You must not tie yourself to me with tears,  
Be happy that we had so many years.*

*I gave you my love. You can only guess,  
How much you gave me in happiness.  
I thank you for the love each of you have shown,  
But now it's time I traveled on alone.*

*So grieve a while for me, if grieve you must.  
Then let your grief be comforted by trust.  
It's only for a while that we must part,  
So bless the memories that lie within your heart.*

*I won't be far away, for life goes on.  
So if you need me, call and I will come.*

*Though you can't see me or touch me, I'll be near.  
And if you listen with your heart, you'll hear  
All of my love around you soft and clear.  
And then, when you must come this way alone,  
I'll greet you with a smile and a "Welcome Home!"*



**Abels Funeral Homes**  
Dike • Eldora • Grundy Center • Reinbeck • Wellsburg  
509 4th Street • Grundy Center, IA 50638  
(319) 824-3319 • www.abelsfuneralhomes.com

# *Always In Our Hearts*



*Isabelle "Issy" E. Ralston*  
*August 30, 1921 ~ February 22, 2018*



Isabelle “Issy” E. Ralston, 96, of Grundy Center, passed away on Thursday, February 22, 2018 at Arlington Place Assisted Living in Grundy Center while under the care of Cedar Valley Hospice. Visitation will be held on Sunday February 25<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM at the Engelkes-Abels Funeral Home in Grundy Center. The funeral service will be held on Monday February 26<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 AM at Bethany Presbyterian Church in Grundy Center, preceded by an hour of visitation at the church. Burial will follow the funeral service at the Rosehill Cemetery in Grundy Center. Memorials may be directed to the family, where they will donate to a charity of their choice at a later date.

Issy was born on August 30, 1921 in Davenport, Iowa, the oldest of three children, to her parents Edward & Elizabeth (Simms) McCoy. As a child, her family moved to Milwaukee, WI. They later relocated to Conrad where Issy, attended school, graduating with the class of 1938. After high school, Issy attended Business College in Cedar Rapids, earning a degree in Business Administration. On September 28, 1941, Issy was united in marriage to Clarence Ralston in Napoleon, OH. Issy and Clarence relocated to New Jersey while Clarence served in the military. The couple raised their four children in the communities of Parkersburg, Garner and Grundy Center.

She began her administrative assistant career at Keith Meyers Enterprises in Grundy Center and later with Western Dressing, where she retired in 1991 at the age of 70.

Issy enjoyed collecting antique dolls, sewing, cross stitching, sports (Go Cubs!) and loved to travel with the New Perspectives Club. She was very active in her life from devoting her time to her grandchildren’s activities, visiting friends and the elderly in Grundy Center and staying as active and healthy as she could, in her 96 years.

She is survived by her children Sheri (Stan) Isvik of Garner, IA, Shelley (Dennis) Westerman of Grundy Center, IA Scott Ralston of Urbandale, IA and Steve (Vicki) Ralston of Dubuque, IA; grandchildren Heather Weaver of Bemidji, MN, Clint Weaver of Garner, IA, Hayley Weaver of Garner, IA & Erin Flage of Aplington, IA, Jenn (Kent) Venenga of Grundy Center, Ryan (Connie Boelman) Westerman of Kansas City, MO, Lindsey Ralston of West Des Moines, IA, Caleb Ralston of Cedar Rapids, IA & Seth Ralston of Urbandale, IA and Abby Ralston & Clayton Ralston of Dubuque; great-grandchildren Sarah Michele Weaver, Buck Weaver, Jake Atencio, Spencer Isvik, William Flage, Tyler & Paige Venenga, Maddie Dirksen and Colby & Addison Ralston. Issy was preceded in death by her husband Clarence; sister Marjorie Beaver and brother Ed McCoy; great-grandson Evan Grabko; daughter-in-law Carol Ralston.

*In Loving Memory*  
*Isabelle “Issy” E. Ralston*

**Born Into Life**

August 30, 1921

Davenport, Iowa

**Entered Eternal Rest**

February 22, 2018

Grundy Center, Iowa

**Funeral Service**

Monday, February 26, 2018

10:30 AM

Bethany Presbyterian Church

Grundy Center, Iowa

**Officiating**

Pastor Al Polito

**Organist**

Mae Hinders

**Vocalist**

Jake Atencio

**Congregational Hymn**

“Precious Lord, Take My Hand”- Hymn #684

**Vocal Selection**

“Amazing Grace”

Performed by Issy’s great-grandson, Jake Atencio

Accompanied by Shannon Spieker

**Special Recorded Music**

“Ivory Palaces”

**Casket Bearers**

Clint Weaver

Ryan Westerman

Seth Ralston

Kent Venenga

Caleb Ralston

Clayton Ralston

**Ushers**

Marvin & Mardean Van Deest

**Committal Service**

Rosehill Cemetery

Grundy Center, Iowa

**Please join Issy’s family for lunch in the church basement following the committal service for a time of lunch and Christian Fellowship.**