

## *I'm Free*

*Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free  
I'm following the path God laid for me.*

*I took his hand when I heard him call  
I turned my back and left it all.*

*I could not stay another day  
to laugh, to love, to work or play.*

*Tasks undone must stay that way.  
I found that peace at close of day.*

*If my parting has left a void  
then fill it with remembered joy.*

*A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,  
ah, yes, these things I too will miss.*

*Be not burdened with times of sorrow  
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.*

*My life's been full, I've savored much,  
good friends, good times,  
a loved one's touch.*

*Perhaps my 88 years seemed all too brief,  
don't lengthen it now with undue grief.*

*Lift up your hearts and share with me  
God wanted me now:*

*He set me free.*

## *Lovingly Remembered*



*Irene Strickler*

*September 7, 1931 ~ January 30, 2020*

*Irene B. Strickler, 88, of Grundy Center, entered into eternal life on Thursday, January 30, at Creekside Living in Grundy Center. A funeral service will be held on Thursday, February 6th at 10:30 AM at the United Methodist Church in Grundy Center. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service at the church. Memorials may be directed to the family who will donate amongst several charities at a later date. A private family burial will take place at the Rosehill Cemetery in Grundy Center. The Abels Funeral and Cremation Service-Engelkes Chapel is caring for Irene and her family.*

*Irene was born on September 7, 1931, to Orren and Edna (Simmons) Mussett of Waterloo, IA. She attended Waterloo East High School, graduating with the class of 1949. On September 23, 1950, she was united in marriage to Donald Strickler; they had a long and loving 59 years of marriage prior to Donald's passing in 2010.*

*Irene was an extremely organized and hard worker, who spent many hours working with Donald on their farm. She and Donald always enjoyed hosting family events at the farm. Her faith was an important part of her life and as a result, Irene was an extremely active member of the United Methodist Church in Grundy Center. Her roles ranged from Sunday School Teacher, to church treasurer, to a Helping Hands volunteer.*

*Irene was also an avid reader and in her younger years, she golfed every Tuesday with three other lady friends. Later in life, Irene spent a great deal of time volunteering at the Grundy County Memorial Hospital. Despite her many responsibilities and hobbies, Irene was always there to show love and support to any family member whenever they needed it.*

*Irene is survived by her three daughters Sharon (Bill) Thompson, Carol Flory, and Nancy (Randy) Cordes; her grandchildren Casey (Heidi) Cordes, Jason Flory, Rachael (Mike) Kowbel, Timothy (Emily) Thompson, Jeffrey Flory, Jonathan Flory and Tiffany Flory; her great grandchildren Kyra Cordes, Kaylene Cordes, Taylor Sayuri Flory, Elam Thompson and Owen Thompson; her sister Evelyn Phennicie; one nephew and many nieces. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband Donald, and sister Janice Nelson.*

*Forever In Our Hearts*

## *Irene B. Strickler*

*September 7, 1931 ~ January 30, 2020*

### *Funeral Service*

*Thursday, February 6, 2020*

*10:30 AM*

*United Methodist Church  
Grundy Center, Iowa*

### *Officiating*

*Pastor Jerry Miller*

### *Organist*

*Sandie Stumberg*

### *Processional Hymn*

*"In The Garden"*

### *Congregational Hymn*

*"Amazing Grace"*

### *Special Music*

*"Ashokan Farewell"*

*Violin Duet*

*By Jeffrey and Jonathan Flory*

*"On Eagle's Wings"*

*By Jason, Jeffrey, Jonathan & Tiffany Flory*

### *Recessional Hymn*

*"Precious Lord, Take My Hand"*

### *Casket Bearers*

<i>Jason Flory</i>	<i>Jeffrey Flory</i>	<i>Casey Cordes</i>
<i>Timothy Thompson</i>	<i>Jonathan Flory</i>	<i>Mike Kowbel</i>

### *Interment*

### **PRIVATE**

*Rose Hill Cemetery  
Grundy Center Iowa*

*Irene's family would like to invite those in attendance to immediately be served lunch in Fellowship Hall following the funeral service while they privately say goodbye to Irene at the cemetery. The family will join you after their brief committal service.*