

## Grace Boekhout, 92

March 12, 1920 - March 16, 2012

LITTLE ROCK, IA — Grace

Boekhout was born in Hospers on March 12, 1920 to Henry and Johanna (Leusink) TeGrootenhuis. She was raised on the family farm and graduated from Hospers High School in 1937. After high school she attended Northwestern Junior College and received a teaching degree. In the fall of 1939 she started teaching at Little Rock Community School.

While teaching Grace met Peter G. Boekhout of Little Rock. They were married on June 14, 1943 at the First Reformed Church in Newkirk. They spent their first year of married life in



Long Beach, CA where Pete worked at Douglas Aircraft. They then moved to Rock Rapids for a short time and eventually moved back to Little Rock where they lived the rest of their married life and raised their 3 daughters. Grace went back to teaching in 1960 and taught 4th, 5th, and 6th grades for another 25 years, before retiring in 1985. She also finished her BA teaching degree in 1968 at Northwestern College in Orange City. Grace became a widow at the age of 50 when Pete suddenly passed away in 1970. During her retirement she was able to travel to many places such as Europe, San Diego, and go on many tours. Grace enjoyed traveling, reading, needlework, and spending time with her family especially her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Being involved in her church, First Presbyterian of Little Rock was very important to Grace. One of her favorite pastimes was drinking tea in the afternoon with the tea ladies. Because of failing health she became a resident of Sibley Nursing and Rehab in August of 2007 where she passed away on March 16, 2012 at the age of 92 years.

Grace was preceded in death by her husband, Peter G. Boekhout; her sister, Hendrene TeGrootenhuis; her brother, William (Bill) TeGrootenhuis; and her parents, Henry and Johanna TeGrootenhuis. Grace leaves to cherish her memory 3 daughters: Linda (Loy) Rickman of Sunrise Beach, MO; Sally (Allan) Simdorn of Harlan; Nancy (Dane) Nordquist of Canby, MN; 7 grandchildren: Greg (Julie) Rickman, Susan Rickman and her husband Rob Heidrick, Shari (Ray) Nowaczyk, Sandy (Josh) Porter, Molly (Tony) Miller, Justin and Nicole Nordquist, and 6 great-grandchildren: Colin, Patrick, Lauren, Karson, AJ, and Tori.

Funeral services were held at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, March 20, 2012 at First Presbyterian Church in Little Rock, with Reverend Scott Burdsall, officiating. Burial followed in the Pleasant View Cemetery at Little

Rock. Visitation was held Mon-

**Jurrens Funeral Home**

1207 Park Drive

day, March 19, 2012 at the First Presbyterian Church of Little Rock from 4:00 - 8:00 p.m. with the family present from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

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