## DONOR STORIES

## IRENE STOUT "Irene A. Stout Endowment Fund"

Irene Stout has spent a majority of her life within Grundy Center, Iowa, farming, attending school, working, and helping others. In December 2006, Irene established the Irene A. Stout Endowment Fund through the Grundy Center Community Foundation, an affiliate of the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa, in order to honor her long-standing connection with the area as well as to honor the Stout family heritage within the Grundy Center community.



IRENE STOUT

Irene, an Iowa native, was born December 11, 1919, in Marshalltown, Iowa, to John Wesley Thomas Aman and Emma Lou Daisy Leonard Aman. She had three brothers and four sisters, all who looked after each other as the Aman family continually moved around Iowa. Irene remembers growing up and enjoying picnics, baseball games, swimming in the river, and social gatherings with her family and friends. She grew up farming and going to school within Liscomb, Morrison, Reinbeck, and Whitten, Iowa. Eventually, she graduated from Whitten High School in 1936.

In 1936, Irene had the pleasure of meeting her first husband, Don Stout. Don and Irene met in Grundy Center, Iowa, where both the Aman and Stout family had been living and farming at the time.

The couple was distanced between 1936 and 1940 while Irene attended Insurance School at the University of Iowa, and Don attended electrical

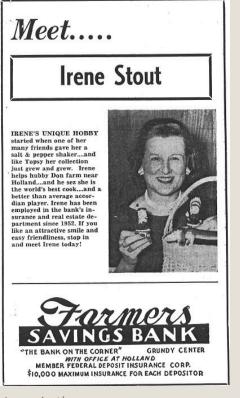
"Irene and the Stout family have a deep passion to help educate the younger generation." school at the University of Minnesota while also serving in the United States Navy. Don's naval duties included serving aboard a Patrol Torpedo boat during World War II as well as aboard the USS Cascade during the Korean War.

Don and Irene married on August 16, 1940, at the Little Brown Church in the Vale in Nashua, Iowa. They lived their entire married life in Grundy Center. However, both loved to travel and together they visited 48 American states and Canada. Don passed away on February 17, 1989.

Through their marriage and after Don passed, Irene was a hard working businesswoman. She was first employed as a teller, insurance agent, and manager of the Real Estate Department for Farmers Savings Bank in Grundy Center. Meanwhile, she also owned and operated her own



Irene and Don on their wedding day.



*Irene in the newspaper.* 

bookkeeping and income tax agency. In 1966, Irene resigned from Farmers Savings Bank and obtained a license in real estate. She sold real estate for Smith and Miller Real Estate of Waterloo, Iowa, for many years until she started her own real estate business, Stout Real Estate. Irene retired in 1992.

Five years after her first husband Don passed, Irene married his older brother Gene, also a widower. The couple settled in Grundy Center, but also spent six months a year living in Florida. Gene passed away on December 1, 2005.

Although Irene stayed busy by working, she also had the passion for philanthropic work. Locally, Irene has served as the president for the Business and Professional Women's Club of Grundy Center and the American Legion Auxiliary in Grundy Center. She currently serves as a board member for the Historical Collections Department at the Grundy County Heritage Museum in Morrison, Iowa, and the Grundy County Memorial Hospital Foundation. She volunteers at the Grundy Center

United Methodist Church and Grundy County Memorial Hospital.

Irene has been a member of the Grundy Center United Methodist Church since 1946. She has previously served as the church treasurer and on the finance committee. Currently, she is a member of the memorial committee as well as Worship on Wednesday (W.O.W) committee, acts as a greeter and usher, and works on the monthly newsletter.

Irene's volunteerism at the Grundy County Memorial Hospital is often within the long-term care unit. However, at times she assists at the front desk. Additionally, Irene has volunteered at the Charlotte



*Irene volunteering at the Charlotte Regional Medical Center.* 

Regional Medical Center while living in Florida.

As of 2004, Irene is a breast cancer survivor. She continues to support other individuals with breast cancer as well as other survivors by running in numerous cancer relays.

Irene and the Stout family have a deep passion to help educate the younger generation. She chose to establish a scholarship endowment fund with the Grundy County Community Foundation, an affiliate of the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa, because she decided it was the best way for a scholarship to continue benefiting the community for years to come. The scholarship was established to honor the Stout family, especially Don's mother, Maye Stout. Maye was a schoolteacher and was always trying to lend an extra hand to students in need. Ultimately, Irene would like the scholarship to continue to honor graduates who have chosen an area of study that will help others and the community.



Irene and Gene, 1991.

\*\*Historical vignette prepared by the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa.



*Irene with scholarship recipients; left: Ashley Appel right: Ellysia Ciddio.* 



Irene with scholarship recipients in 2007





*Irene got into real estate in 1966. She retired in 1992.* 



Realtors, Hunemuller Homes, Inc. ERA Realtors and McGee & Ott. Inc., ERA Realtors have werged offices and moved to 2515 Falls Avenue, Waterloo. Iowa, and now will be known as McGee & Ott. Inc. ERA Realtors, Waterloo, Iowa, Irene A. Stout, who has been associated with Hunemuller, Homes, Inc., ERA Realtors, will now be a Broker-Associate with McGee & Ott. Inc., ERA Realtors, Waterloo, Iowa, Irene Will continue to give the fine professional service in the Grundy Center area as she has done in the past. She will now be at her home at 101 E. Avenue, Grundy Center, at all times waiting to serve you.

For all your Professional Real Estate Needs Call Irene

Ranch with 3 bedrooms, double car garage, rec. room in basement? Close to 'schools.' New Listing', 2 bedroom small home: uptown location, ideal for one or a couple. Lots of room, big lot, double car garage. 3 bedrooms. Spacious kitchen with built-in oven, stove. Lots of cupboards. Must see inside.

Irene A. Stout Member Waterloo-Cedar Falls Board of Realitors Residence 824-6480 Office 233-3315 Collect McGEE & OTT, INC.

Realtors

Irene in the paper for her real estate business.



neer's career covers a lot of real esta

Irene was installed as Legion Auxiliary President.



Irene was elected to the Grundy County Memorial Hospital Foundation Board in 2011. Pictured with Jan Ehrig and Toni Nederhoff.

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