

H-R 5/13/2003

## Zelma Johnston

Margaret Zelma Johnston, 91, of Grinnell died Thursday, May 8, at her home.

A funeral service was held Monday, May 12, at Watts Funeral Home in Montezuma. Officiating was Boyd Sparks, pastor of the United Church of Deep River. Casket bearers were Dennis Johnston, Jon Dawley, David Cranston, Steve Cranston, Don Cranston and Don Sondag. An Eastern Star service was held by Holley; chapter No. 477, Order of the Eastern Star of Malcom. Interment was in Golden Rod Cemetery in Deep River. Memorials may be made to Stewart Library in Grinnell.

She was born Aug. 20, 1911, to Josh and Olive Taylor Johnston on the family farm northwest of Deep River. She graduated from Deep River High School in 1921, then attended Iowa State Teachers College in Cedar Falls for two years. She taught rural school in Poweshiek County for nine years, then attended business college in Cedar Rapids. Following the death of her mother, she cared for her father until his death in 1974. She moved to Brooklyn and worked at Dickey's Restaurant near Malcom. She moved to Malcom in 1979 and later to Grinnell.

She belonged to the United Methodist Church in Deep River and Holly chapter, Order of the Eastern Star. She took the census count for several years and enjoyed playing cards, reading and watching sports.

She is survived by a sister-in-law, nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, one brother Emmett and one sister Beulah Johnson.

M R MAY 14, 2003

## M. Zelma Johnston, 91

Margaret Zelma Johnston, 91, of Deep River, Malcom and later Grinnell, died at her home on Thursday, May 8.

Her funeral service was Monday, May 12, at Watts Funeral Home in Montezuma with Pastor Boyd Sparks of the United Church of Deep River officiating. The Eastern Star Service was performed by members of Holly Chapter No. 477 O.E.S. of Malcom. Interment was at Golden Rod Cemetery, Deep River.

Casket bearers were Dennis Johnston, Jon Dawley, David Cranston, Steve Cranston, Don Cranston and Dan Sondag.

Zelma Johnston was born Aug. 20, 1911 to Josh and Olive (Taylor) Johnston on the home farm three and one-half miles northwest of Deep River. She graduated from Deep River High School in 1921 and then attended Iowa State Teachers College at Cedar Falls for two years. She taught rural school for nine years in Poweshiek County. She then attended business college in Cedar Rapids. After the death of her mother in 1948, she stayed with her

dad and cared for him until his death in 1974.

She moved to Brooklyn and worked at Dickey's Restaurant near Malcom. She also took census counts for several years. She was a member of the Holly Chapter No. 477 Order of Eastern Star at Malcom and belonged to the Methodist Church at Deep River. She moved to Malcom in March 1979 and later to Grinnell. She liked to play cards and read books. She loved her flowers, especially red roses, and liked to watch sports.

Zelma is survived by a sister-in-law, Mary Johnston of Montezuma; a nephew, Dennis (and Sally) Johnston of Montezuma; two nieces, Linda (and John) White of Melborne and Diana (and Dan) Dawley of Montezuma; great-nieces and nephews and special friends Susie Sondag and Irma Arnaman, both of Grinnell.

She was preceded in death by a brother, Emmett, and a sister, Beulah Johnston.

Memorials in her name may be directed to the Grinnell Public Library.