

Rita Baustian



Rita Baustian, 80, of Grinnell died Friday, Aug. 27, 2010, at University of Iowa Hospitals in Iowa City.

A Mass of the Resurrection was held Wednesday, Sept. 1, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Grinnell. Interment will take place at a later date in Calvary Cemetery in Victor. Memorials may be made to MICA or to Catholic Relief Services in care of Smith Funeral Home, PO Box 368, Grinnell IA 50112.

She was born in 1930, the third of four children of Maynard and Teresa McGarry Brothersen, and grew up on a farm near Victor and attended St. Bridget's Church. She graduated from St. John's Parochial School and from Ottumwa Heights College.

In 1950, she was united in marriage with Gerald Baustian and they farmed near Grinnell for several years. She also lived near Brooklyn before moving to Grinnell in 1990. She retired from General Telephone and Electronics (GTE) to become a CNA so she could care for others, which she did at St. Francis Manor and the Mayflower Community.

She had served on the BGM Board of Education, the Soil Conservation Commission, the Grinnell Planning and Zoning Commission and was a dedicated Democrat, serving as a delegate to county and state conventions.

She also was active in St. Mary's Parish, serving on its social justice committee; involved with the National Council for Catholic Women; and had sung in the St. Mary's Church Choir as well as the Grinnell Community Chorus.

She enjoyed travel, recently to Scandinavia and Russia; ACES classes at Grinnell College; the Grinnell Regional Medical Center SEED program; and participating in other events at Grinnell College.

She is survived by her son and daughters Gerald Jr. of Grinnell, Teresa and Kathleen of Des Moines, Diane Burke of Davenport, Leslie Pijut of Fento, Mo., Loretta of Quincy, Ill. and Jennifer Hartz of Grinnell; her sister Jane Bride of Roseville, Ill.; her brother, the Rev. Maynard J. Brothersen of Davenport; ten grandchildren and one great grandchild. She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband; her brother Harold Brothersen; and two sons, Richard and Daniel Baustian.

GHR 9-2-10

Rita Baustian

Rita Baustian, 80, of Grinnell died Friday, Aug. 27, 2010, at University of Iowa Hospitals in Iowa City.

A Mass of the Resurrection will be held Wednesday, Sept. 1, at 10:30 a.m. at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Grinnell. Interment will take place at a later date at Calvary Cemetery in Victor.

Friends may call at Smith Funeral Home Tuesday beginning at 12 noon with family members present from 5 to 7 p.m. A scripture service will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday at the funeral home.

Memorials may be made to MICA or to Catholic Relief Services in care of Smith Funeral Home, PO Box 368, Grinnell IA 50112.

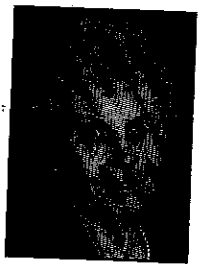
GHR 8-30-10

PCCR 9-8-10

OBITUARIES

Rita Baustian, 80

Rita Baustian, 80, of Grinnell, died on Friday, Aug. 27, 2010, at University Hospitals in Iowa City.



Mass of the Resurrection was held at 10:30 a.m., Wednesday, Sept. 1, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Grinnell with the Rev. Nick Adam, Rev. Maynard Brothersen and Rev. Mr. William Olson officiating. Music was provided by Marilyn Kriegel, organist, and St. Mary's Choir. Casket Bearers were her grandchildren, Austin and Andrew Burke, Jacob Pijut, Hannah, Emma and Collin Hartz, Stephanie Baustian Meinke, Seth, Tucker and Hunter Bruenger. Interment will be at a later date at the Calvary Cemetery in Victor.

Memorials may be directed to MICA or to Catholic Relief Services and sent in care of the Smith Funeral Home, P.O. Box 368, Grinnell, Iowa 50112.

Memories and condolences may be shared with the family at www.smithfh.com.

Rita Ann Baustian was born on June 7, 1930, near Victor, the third of four children of Maynard and Teresa McGarry Brothersen. Rita grew up on a farm near Victor and attended St. Bridget's Church -- two influences that shaped the rest of her life. She graduated from St. John's parochial school and from Ottumwa Heights College.

In 1950, Rita was married to Gerald Baustian and they farmed near Grinnell for a number of years. She also lived near Brooklyn before moving to Grinnell in 1990.

Rita retired from General Telephone and Electric only to become a CNA so that she could take care of others, and she did so at both St. Francis Manor and the Mayflower Community.

Service to her community was important to Rita and she was active on a number of boards and commissions. She served on the BGM School Board, on the Soil Conservation Commission and on the Grinnell Planning and Zoning Commission. She ran for the county board of supervisors, and was a dedicated Democrat, serving as a delegate to county and state conventions.

Rita was active in the St. Mary's parish, serving on the Social Justice committee, and was involved with the National Council for Catholic Women. She expressed her love of music by singing in the St. Mary's church choir and with the Grinnell Community Chorus for a number of years. She had a standing date to attend the Des Moines Metro Opera every summer.

A life-long interest in learning was expressed first by enriching her children's lives with books and music, transmitting to them a love of reading and adventure. For her part, Rita enjoyed travel, recently touring Scandinavia and Russia. She enjoyed the ACES classes at Grinnell College, the GRMC SEED program, and partook of a variety of events at the college.

Rita was preceded in death by her parents, Maynard and Teresa Brothersen; her husband, Gerald Baustian; her brother, Harold Brothersen; and two sons, Richard and Daniel Baustian.

She is survived by her sister, Jane Bride of Roseville, Ill.; her brother, the Rev. Maynard J. Brothersen of Davenport; children, Gerald, Jr. of Grinnell, Teresa of Des Moines, Kathleen of Des Moines, Diane Burke of Davenport, Leslie (Denny) Pijut of Fenton, Mo., Loretta Baustian (Scott Bruenger) of Quincy, Ill., and Jennifer (Eric) Hartz of Grinnell, as well as 10 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.