Mary Jo Adams

Mary Jo Adams, 64, of Grinnell, died on Saturday, Jan. 29, 2011, at Iowa Methodist Medical Center in Des Moines.

Services are pending at Smith Funeral Home. GHR 1-31-11

Mary Jo Adams, 64, of Grinnell died Saturday, Jan. 29, 2011, at Iowa Methodist Medical Center in Des Moines.

A celebration of life service was held Thursday, Feb. 3, at Grinnell Christian Church with the Rev. Kirsten Klepfer, pastor of First Presbyterian Church, officiating. Casket bearers were Marvin Doty, Tim Elliott, Jeff Inman, Damian Imhoff, Jake Robison and Phillip Squiers. Honorary bearers were Marvin Honold, Paul Jones and Ed Locker. Interment was in Westfield Cemetery, rural Grinnell.

Memorials may be made to the Mary Jo Adams Memorial Fund, PO Box 368, Grinnell IA 50112. Proceeds will benefit the American Cancer Society for research on Inflammatory Breast Disease. Memories and condolences may be shared with her family at www.smithfh.com.

She was born May 26, 1946, in Grinnell, the daughter of Lloyd and Myrtle Hockett Gilbert. She was raised in Grinnell, graduating from Grinnell High School with the class of 1964. She attended Paris Beauty Academy in Cedar Rapids, after which she opened a beauty salon in her home in Gilman. She was united in marriage with Ronald Adams on Sept. 14, 1974, in Elk Point, S.D. They resided near Malcom and she began working at Vogue Styling Salon in Grinnell. She operated Country Curls out of her home, then opened Mane Attraction in Malcom, prior to assisting residents of the Mayflower Community in Grinnell and a stylist.

She was a member and deacon of First Presbyterian Church in Grinnell; a member of the Sheridan Women's Group; and an active volunteer for hospice and in the gift shop at Grinnell Regional Medical Center.

She is survived by her husband of 36 years, Ron Adams of Grinnell; her son and daughter, Tim Elliott and Janene Imhoff of Grinnell; her stepdaughters, Angela Hinman of Belmond and Teresa Adams of Kellogg; eight grandchildren; and her sisters, Lois Reid of Phoenix, Ariz., and Pat Jolley of Mansfield, Texas. She was preceded in death by her parents and her sister Virginia Lee Gilbert.
Mary Jo Adams, 64

Mary Jo Adams, 64, of Grinnell, died Saturday, Jan. 29, 2011, at Iowa Methodist Medical Center in Des Moines.

A celebration of life service was held at 10:30 a.m., Thursday, Feb. 3, at the Christian Church in Grinnell with the Rev. Kirsten Kleenhor, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, officiating. Casket bearers were Marvin Doty, Tim Elliott, Jeff Himman, Damian Imhoff, Jake Robison and Phillip Squiers. Honorary bearers were Marvin Honold, Paul Jones and Ed Locker. Interment was at Westfield Cemetery near Grinnell.

Memorials may be designated to the Mary Jo Adams Memorial Fund, P.O. Box 366, Grinnell, Iowa 50112. Proceeds will benefit the American Cancer Society for research on inflammatory breast disease. Memories and condolences may be shared with the family at www.smithfh.com.

Mary Jo was born on May 26, 1946, in Grinnell, to Lloyd and Myrtle Hockett Gilbert. She was raised in Grinnell and she graduated from Grinnell High School with the class of 1964. She then attended Paris Beauty Academy in Cedar Rapids.

Following her education, she opened a beauty salon in her home in Gilman. She was united in marriage to Ronald Adams on Sept. 14, 1974, in Elk Point, S.D. The couple resided near Malcom and she began working at Vogue Styling Salon in Grinnell. She operated Country Curls out of her home and then opened Mane Attraction in Malcom; before assisting the residents of the Mayflower Community in Grinnell as a stylist.

Mary Jo was a loving and giving person. She dearly loved her children and grandchildren and supported them by attending many of their activities. Her enjoyments included car rides in the Corvair, dancing, going on girls' trips out of state, trips to the Dairy Barn in the summer, having coffee with the girls on Friday mornings, and preparing holiday dinners for her family. In recent years, she was an active participant in cancer awareness walks and events.

Mary Jo was a member and deacon of the First Presbyterian Church in Grinnell and she was also a member of the Sheridan Women's Group. She was an active volunteer for the hospice program and at the gift shop at Grinnell Regional Medical.

Mary Jo is survived by her husband of thirty-six years, Ron Adams, of Grinnell; her children, Tim (Robin) Elliott and Janene (Damian) Imhoff, both of Grinnell, her step-daughters, Angela (Jeff) Himman of Belmond, and Teresa Adams of Kellogg; eight grandchildren, Jake Robison, Jessica and Lisa Himman, Madison and McKinze Elliott, and Ashlyn, Kylah and Dawson Imhoff; and her sisters, Lois (Mike) Reid of Phoenix, Ariz., and Pat (Gary) Jolley of Mansfield, Texas.

Mary Jo was preceded in death by her parents; and her sister, Virginia Lee Gilbert.