Iola M. Willemsen

Iola M. Willemsen, 102, of Grinnell died Wednesday, Feb. 16, 2011, at Mercy Medical Center in Des Moines.

A celebration of her life was held Monday, Feb. 21, 2011, at Smith Funeral Home with Dr. Doug Smiley, pastor of Lynnville Friends Church, officiating. Pallbearers were Tim Brunkhorst, James Harris, Jeremy Juuhl, Matthew Meredith, Ryan Meredith, Carver Terpstra and Kyle Terpstra. Interment was in Woodland Cemetery in Lynnville.

Memorials may be designated to Lynnville Friends Church or St. Francis Manor. Memories and condolences may be shared with her family at www.smith.com.

She was born April 5, 1908, in Sully to Albert and Dora Garner James. She was raised and educated in Lynnville. She was united in marriage with John Willemsen on Feb. 10, 1931, in Sully. They resided in the Lynnville area and she was a homemaker.

She was an active member of Lynnville Friends Church where she taught Sunday school and vacation Bible school.

She is survived by her son and daughter, Larry Willemsen of Grinnell and Sharon Meredith of Ankeny; nine grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild; and her sister Ruth Hull of Grinnell. She was preceded in death by her husband; her parents; one son Keith; a great-granddaughter; three brothers, Harold, Lloyd and Ward James; and her sister Wanda Williams.

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