Kathryn A. Nelson

Kathryn A. Nelson, 50, of Grinnell, died on Wednesday, May 4, 2011, at the Mayflower Health Care Center in Grinnell.

A memorial service was held Saturday, May 7, in the Carman Center of the Mayflower Community.

Memorials may be directed to the Mayflower Human Needs Fund or to the First Baptist Church in Grinnell.

6/15/11

Kathryn A. Nelson, 60, of Grinnell, died Wednesday, May 11, 2011, at the Mayflower Health Care Center.

A funeral service was held Saturday, May 14, at the Carman Center of the Mayflower Community, with Rev. Susan Metcalf, pastor of the First Baptist Church, officiating. Words of comfort were delivered by Rev. Susan Sanning and Rev. Christine Tinker. Music was provided by Denise Baustian, pianist; Ed Poush, vocalist; Jean Libbey, cellist, and Pat Saxton, accompanist. Casket bearers were Chuck Brooke, Larry Manning, Ed Poush, Howard Raffety, John Sherman and Hilliard Turner Jr. Internment was at Hazelwood Cemetery with the Smith Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

Memorials may be directed to the Mayflower Human Needs Fund or to the First Baptist Church of Grinnell.

Kathryn was born June 15, 1950, in Birmingham, Ala., to Harold and Opal Nelson. Kathryn’s father, Harold, was a professor of business and taught in Birmingham; Terre Haute, Ind.; Upper Iowa University and Marshalltown.

After graduation from Grinnell College, Kathy taught high school science in Redfield, Iowa, and biology at Hannibal-LaGrange University in Hannibal, Mo. Later she received a MA in library science and joined the library staff at Marycrest College in Davenport. She was on the library staff of Millikan University in Decatur, Ill.

Kathy and her cats, Snowball and Cocoa, moved to Grinnell in 2002 when multiple sclerosis forced early retirement. She has resided at Mayflower Community since 2003.

Kathryn is survived by her half-brother.