Ila Jean Winchell

Ila Jean Winchell, 79, of Troy, Kansas, and formerly of this area, died Saturday, Jan. 28, 2012, at Heartland Regional Medical Center in St. Joseph, Mo.

A funeral service was held Tuesday, Jan. 31, at the Harman-Rohde Funeral Home in Troy, Kan., and burial was at the Mt. Olive Cemetery in Troy. Memorials may be made in her name to the American Heart Association or to the donor's choice. People may sign a guest book or send condolences at www.harmanrohde.com.

She was born Feb. 22, 1932, near Newburg, to Joseph Augustus and Mabel McIlrath Tharp. She graduated from Newburg High School in 1950. Ila married Walter Ira Winchell on Aug. 10, 1952, at the Little Brown Church in Nashua. She worked for, and in 1994 retired from, Research Seeds as a laboratory technician.

She is survived by her sons Dennis Winchell and Larry Winchell, both of St. Joseph, Mo.; one granddaughter and one great-granddaughter; her sister, Shirley Latham of Grinnell; and many other relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by her husband and her parents.