Mary Frances Dean, 84, of Grinnell, died Oct. 24, 2013, at the Mayflower Community Health Care Center in Grinnell.

Funeral services were held at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, Oct. 26, at the Grinnell Christian Church with the Rev. Craig Smith, pastor of the Grinnell Christian Church, and the Rev. Jyn Leffler, a granddaughter, officiating. Organist will be Jolene Jones and vocalist will be Marlene Toney. A private family graveside service and burial was held Saturday at the Brooklyn Memorial Cemetery, Brooklyn.

Memorial contributions may be directed to the Grinnell Christian Church.

Mary was born Feb. 13, 1929, in Brooklyn, the daughter of Allen Paul and Jeanette Brownlie Clayton. She later moved with her family to Grinnell and was a 1948 graduate of Grinnell High School.

On Nov. 17, 1951, she was united in marriage with Richard E. Dean, in Brooklyn. The couple were later divorced in 1995.

Mary knew the value of hard work and throughout her life she was employed in the Grinnell area. Early in life, she was employed at Midwest Stamping Company in Kellogg and had worked at a restaurant in Newton as a waitress.

She then worked at St. Francis Hospital and Community Hospital in Grinnell and later, Grinnell General Hospital. She was a nurse’s aide and later received her LPN license and was employed for several years at the Mayflower Home and later St. Francis Manor in Grinnell. She was a part-time cook at the Elks Lodge for 26 years and then, later in life, she was employed in the Grinnell School System for 10 years as kitchen and custodial help at Fairview Elementary School.

Mary was very active in Davis School PTA for many years, where she served as president for two years. She was a member of the Grinnell Christian Church, Church Women United, and was a former secretary/treasurer for over 25 years with the Christian Church Home Builders.

She was also a long-time member and former president and chaplain of the Grinnell American Legion Auxiliary.

For several years, she was an advocate with the Care Review Committee at Friendship Manor in Grinnell.

Survivors include four children, Allen (Carol) Dean of Marshalltown, Barbara Smith of San Pablo, Calif., Edwin (Sandi) Dean of Monroe, and Catherine (Dale) Harding of Albion; her former husband and special friend, Richard Marshalltown; one brother, Paul (Marge) Clayton of Grinnell; one sister, Pauline Pipps of Grinnell; a sister-in-law, Margaret Clayton; seven grandchildren; and 15 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents and four brothers, Roger, Graham, Robert and Miles Clayton.

Mary F. Dean, 84, of Grinnell, died Thursday, Oct. 24, 2013, at the Mayflower Health Care Center.

A funeral service will be held at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, Oct. 26, at the Grinnell Christian Church. A family internment will be 9 a.m., Saturday, at the Brooklyn Memorial Cemetery.

Memorials may be directed to the Grinnell Christian Church.

The family will receive friends from 5 to 7 p.m. on Friday at the Carman Center of the Mayflower Community.

The Smith Funeral Home of Grinnell is handling arrangements.