Janet Austin 6H-R 2-27-2014
Janet Austin, 71, of Grinnell died Feb. 26, 2014, at Grinnell Regional Medical Center.

Funeral services were scheduled for 10:30 a.m. Monday, March 3, at the Smith Funeral Home.

Visitation will be held from 2 to 6 p.m. Sunday at the funeral home and the family will be present from 2 to 4 Sunday afternoon.

Memorial contributions may be directed to the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital or Wounded Warrior Project.

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Funeral services were held at 10:30 a.m., Monday, March 3, at the Smith Funeral Home with the Rev. Brian Chitwood, pastor of the Madison Church of Christ, officiating. Rob Clower played bagpipes. Pallbearers were A.J. Hershberger, Tyler May, Jaren Towne and Mitch Bill and Rod Thompson. Burial was in Hazelwood Cemetery in Grinnell.

Memorial contributions may be directed to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital or the Wounded Warrior Project.

Janet was born Nov. 27, 1942, at the family home in Deep River, the daughter of Walter and Vernice Davis Johnston. She was raised in rural Montezuma and was a 1961 graduate of Montezuma High School. She later received an OB Tech certification at Marshalltown Community College.

She was married to Allen Thompson and they shared five children together. For several years she was a farm wife and kept busy raising her family. Later in life, she was employed, for 38 years, in the OB Department at Grinnell Regional Medical Center. She retired in 2013.

On Nov. 1, 2002, she was united in marriage to James Austin, at the Little White Chapel in Las Vegas and the couple continued to live in Grinnell. They enjoyed vacationing in Vegas and spending time together.

Janet knew the value of hard work and this was evident in her many years of devotion and loving care in helping mothers and their newborn babies while working at the hospital and for her passion in maintaining a well looking home and yard. She was a perfectionist! She loved her family dearly, enjoyed family gatherings and held a keen interest in all her family activities. She loved celebrating the holidays, especially Christmas, flower gardening, reading, shopping and baking. Her homemade apple pie was a family favorite! She was a good friend to many and very giving throughout her life.

Survivors include her husband, Jim of Grinnell; five children, Debbie Talbert of Brooklyn, Teresa (Kevin) Hershberger of West Des Moines, Dan (Heidi) Thompson of Grinnell, Lynda (Matt) Ellander of Newton and Mike (Erin) Thompson of Gilman; one brother, Ed (Beth) Johnston of Grinnell; one sister, Phyllis (Gary) Thompson of Montezuma; 14 grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; a good friend, Linda Neels of Montezuma; and her dog, Zeva.

She was preceded in death by her parents and a great-grandchild.