Mary Lou Kudej

Mary Lou Kudej, 70, of Grinnell, died Tuesday, Sept. 30, 2014, at Grinnell Regional Medical Center. A memorial gathering will be held from 5 to 8 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 18, at Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell. Memorials may be directed to Grinnell Regional Hospice.

Mary Lou was born on July 8, 1944, in Jasper County near Grinnell, to Vernie and Lillian Staton Johnson. She attended Grinnell schools.

Mary Lou made her home in Grinnell and cared for elderly people in their homes for many years. She was united in marriage to David Kudej on July 3, 1986, in Grinnell. She enjoyed spending time with her grandchildren, cooking and outdoor activities.

Survivors include her daughter, Traci Dolash of Chelsea; one son, Allan Jones of Deep River; three grandchildren; one great grandson; one brother, Keith Johnson of Grinnell; three sisters, Joan Smith of Dothan, Ala., Bonnie Cowger of Grinnell and Sandy Mayo of Santa Rosa, Calif.; as well as a special friend, Paul McDonald.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband in 2012; and three sisters, Helen Hauersperger, Phyllis Azendo and Betty Chestam.

CH  # 10-13-2014