Twylamae Ruth McAtee, 89, of Grinnell died April 23, 2015, at the Mayflower Community Health Care Center in Grinnell.

Funeral services were scheduled for 10:30 a.m. Monday, April 27th at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell with the Rev. John Epperson officiating. Pianist and vocalist was Theresa Blizzard. Pallbearers were Seth and Scott McAtee, Carl Blizzard, Charlie Criswell, Tyler Graham and Alan Wickwire. Honorary bearers were Cavan, Dylan, Hayden, Miles and Tim McAtee, Jr., Caleb, Eli and Ryan Criswell, Sam Strobel and Jake and Jared Wickwire. Burial was in Hazelwood Cemetery in Grinnell.

Visitation with the family present was held from 9:00 a.m. until service time Monday morning at the funeral home.

Memorial contributions may be directed to the Twylamae McAtee Memorial Fund.

Twylamae was born January 7, 1926, in Poweshiek County, Iowa, the daughter of Milton and Martha Ballard Gross. She was raised in Grinnell and was a 1944 graduate of Grinnell High School. While in high school she was employed at the Candyland.

On April 21, 1946, she was united in marriage to Charles Carlton McAtee, a WWII veteran, at the United Methodist Church in Montezuma. The couple lived in various communities in Iowa and Illinois before returning to Grinnell in 1979. She was employed at the Grinnell College Forum for many years and while there she became a “mother-figure” to many students. She was pleasant to work with and held a genuine care for all the students there.

Twylamae was very devoted to her family and dearly loved all her grandchildren and great-grandchildren! She was “always there” for her family and enjoyed doing things for them. She was full of life, always cheerful and very faithful. She enjoyed cooking, baking and gardening. She was an avid fan of Michael Jordan and the Chicago Bulls and the St. Louis Cardinals.

Survivors include her children, Dennis “Mike” (Sandy) McAtee of Lakeside, Arizona, Tim (Kristi) McAtee of Rochester, Minnesota, and Pat (Larry) Criswell of Grinnell; nine grandchildren, Cindy Strobel, Charlie (Katie) Criswell, Melissa (Alan) Wickwire, Theresa (Carl) Blizzard, Tim (Kara) McAtee, Jr., Hanna, Baily, Seth (Ashley) and Scott (Katie) McAtee; and 18 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents and her husband, Chuck, on December 25, 2012.
GRINNELL RESIDENT

Ruth McAtee, 89

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