Anna May Brown

Anna May Brown, 87, of Grinnell died Wednesday, October 26, at Friendship Manor in Grinnell.

Funeral services for Mrs. Brown were held Saturday, October 29, at 10:30 a.m. at the Grinnell First Baptist Church, with the Rev. Tim Stewart officiating. Organist was Denise Baustian. Vocalist was Milton Severe. Pallbearers were her grandchildren, James and Jeffrey O’Halloran, Sharon Stacy, and Eric, Scott and Mark Jamison. Burial was in Hazelwood Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be directed to the Grinnell First Baptist Church. Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell handled arrangements.

The daughter of Burdette A. and Lillian Patton Abel, she was born May 10, 1918, in Grant Township, north of Grinnell. She attended Grant #2 rural school near her home and graduated from Grinnell High School with the class of 1935. She attended Washington Junior College in Washington for a year and returned to Grinnell in 1936. She taught for one year in Malcom and Chester Township rural schools near Grinnell.

On March 27, 1945, she was married to Harold F. Brown, in Grinnell. After Harold’s return from serving in the Air Force in World War II, the couple made their home in Grinnell for one year before moving to their family farm in the Westfield neighborhood south of Grinnell. She was employed at Ben Franklin and Lynch Variety Stores before joining the Grinnell State Bank in 1940 until 1947. She returned to the bank in 1960, retiring in 1980 as an assistant cashier. She had been a resident at Friendship Manor since 2000.

She was active with 4-H as a youth and later became a 4-H leader in Washington Township. She was an active member of the Grinnell First Baptist Church, serving on many church boards, and was a longtime choir member. She was active in the Christian Women’s Club, Church Women United, Just-a-Mere Club and Grinnell General Hospital Auxiliary.

Survivors include her husband, Harold of Grinnell; three children, Kathleen O’Halloran of Fort Dodge, Richard C. Brown of Marshalltown, and Barbara Jamison of Oelwein; six grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents; one brother, Burdette Abel; and four sisters, Mina Imhoff, Mary Harding, Elizabeth Lawrence, and Patty Evans.