Odessa E. Douglass, 92

Odessa E. Baltisberger Douglass, 92, of Grinnell and formerly of Malcom, died Tuesday, Aug. 30, 2005, at Grinnell Regional Medical Center.

Her funeral service was Saturday, Sept. 3, at the Smith Funeral Home, Grinnell, with Brother Carl Hagensick of Chicago officiating. Burial was at Ivy Hill Cemetery in Malcom.

Pallbearers were Steve Cox, Mark Hall, Joe and Josh Murphy, and Chad and Ryan Simonton.

Honorary bearers were Gina Cox, Clarissa Hall, Jenea Rauch-Keith, Anna and Chantell Sheppard, and Kathy Simonton.

The daughter of Irvington John "I.J." and Lodieski "Lodi" Carpenter Baltisberger, Odessa was born April 27, 1913, in Malcom, Iowa. She was raised in Malcom and was a graduate of Malcom High School.

On June 2, 1934, she was married to John William Douglass in Marshalltown. The couple farmed near Malcom for many years. She also taught at a rural school in Pleasant Township for several years and, after receiving a B.A. degree at Drake University, in the early 1960's she taught in a rural school in Sheridan Township and later in Searsboro. She also enjoyed being a greeter at Wal-Mart.

Odessa enjoyed her life on the farm and was involved in the daily operations of running a successful farm operation and providing a loving home for her family. Her hobbies included woodworking, reading and sewing and for many years she enjoyed traveling and camping.

Survivors include three daughters, Elaine White (Robert Lamon) of Santa Clarita, Calif.; Charlene Vanderveer of Grinnell and Ivieen (LaVern) Rauch of Montezuma; one son, Gale (Carole) Douglass of Killen, Ala.; ten grandchildren; eleven great-grandchildren, and two great-great-grandchildren.

Odessa was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, John, in 1977; three children in infancy; one grandson, Stephen White; and one brother, Ronald Baltisberger.

Memorial contributions may be directed to the Malcom Volunteer Fire Department. Condolences may be submitted online via the Smith Funeral Home website at www.smithfh.com.
Odessa E. Baltisberger Douglass, 92

Odessa E. Baltisberger Douglass, 92, of Grinnell and formerly of Malcom, died on Tuesday, August 30, 2005, at Grinnell Regional Medical Center.

Funeral services for Mrs. Douglass were held at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 3, at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell with Brother Carl Hagenstick of Chicago officiating. Organist was Margaret Wheeler and vocalist was Rhonda Minner. Pallbearers were Steve Cox, Mark Hall, Joe and Josh Murphy, and Chad and Ryan Simonton. Honorary bearers were Gina Cox, Clarissa Hall, Jenea Rauch-Keith, Anna and Chantell Sheppard, and Kathy Simonton. Burial was in Ivy Hill Cemetery in Malcom. Memorial contributions may be directed to the Malcom Volunteer Fire Department.

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Memorials may be directed to the Malcom Volunteer Fire Department. Condolences may be submitted online at the Smith Funeral Home website at www.smithfh.com.

Odessa E. Douglass

Odessa E. Douglass, 92, of Grinnell and formerly of Malcom, died Tuesday, August 30, at Grinnell Regional Medical Center.

Funeral services for Mrs. Douglass were held at 7 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 3, at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell, with Brother Richard Doctor of Chicago officiating. Organist was Margaret Wheeler, and vocalist, Rhonda Minner.

Pallbearers were Steve Cox, Mark Hall, Joe and Josh Murphy, and Chad and Ryan Simonton. Honorary bearers were Gina Cox, Clarissa Hall, Jenea Rauch-Keith, Anna and Chantell Sheppard, and Kathy Simonton. Burial was in Ivy Hill Cemetery in Malcom. The daughter of Irvington John "I.J." and Lodieski "Lodi" Carpenter Baltisberger, she was reared in Malcom and was a graduate of Malcom High School. On June 2, 1934, she married John William Douglass in Marshalltown, and the couple farmed near Malcom for many years. She also taught at a rural school in Pleasant Township for several years and, after receiving a B.A. degree at Drake University in the early 1960s, she taught in a rural school in Sheridan Township and later in Searshoro. She also enjoyed being a greeter at Wal-Mart.

Mrs. Douglass enjoyed her life on the farm and was involved in the daily farming operations, and also provided a loving home for her family. Her hobbies included woodworking, reading, and sewing; and for many years she enjoyed traveling and camping.
Odessa Douglass

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Funeral services for Mrs. Douglass are scheduled for 2 p.m. Saturday, September 3, at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell. Burial will be in Ivy Hill Cemetery in Malcom.

Visitation will be held from 12 noon to 8 p.m. Friday at the Smith Funeral Home with the family will be present from 6 to 8 p.m. Friday evening.