Wanda C. Gerard

Wanda C. Gerard, 85, of St. Louis, Mo., and formerly of Grinnell, died Sunday, August 14, at St. Anthony's Medical Center in St. Louis.

A funeral service will be held at 9 a.m. Saturday, August 20, at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell with burial at the Jackson Township in Montezuma. Friends may call at the Smith Funeral Home beginning 12 noon on Friday.

Wanda was born February 24, 1920, in Astoria, Ill., to Elmer and Daisy Skiles Belville. She graduated from North Central Bible College in 1943 and became an ordained minister in the Assemblies of God in 1945.

She married Clifford Gerard on July 23, 1945, in Grinnell. She was a mother and served as a pastor in churches in Mount Ayr from 1954 to 1965; in Renault, Ill., from 1965 to 1977; and as guest pastor following her retirement. In 1979, the couple moved to Grinnell to retire. She moved to St. Louis in April 2005 to be near her daughter.

Survivors include her children Sharon Gerard of St. Louis; Philip Gerard of Phoenix, Ariz.; and Ivan Gerard of Omaha; four grandchildren; and one sister, Juanita Genseal of Turlock, Calif. She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband; four brothers; and three sisters.