Jane R. Poynter

Jane R. Poynter, 94, of Grinnell died Tuesday, March 22, at her home.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, April 2, at 2 p.m. at the United Church of Christ-Congregational with the Rev. Robert Molsberry, pastor of the church, officiating. Interment will be at Hazelwood Cemetery. Memorials may be made to Grinnell Regional Hospice or the United Church of Christ-Congregational.

She was born Dec. 18, 1910, at the home of her parents, Emerson and Frances Pearl Sappington Ruegamer, in rural Manhattan, Mont. She was raised on the family ranch and educated in a rural school before attending high school in Manhattan. Her mother died when she was six years old and she assisted with the family’s household responsibilities.

She was married on Aug. 21, 1929, to Durward (Dick) Poynter in Butte, Mont. They lived in Manhattan until 1934 and later operated J.C. Penney Department Stores in Billings, Mont., Lead, S.D., and Montpelier, Idaho. In 1957 they moved to Grinnell where they owned and operated Poynter’s Fourth Avenue Fashions in downtown Grinnell. From 1983 to 1999 she was associated with her daughter as a sales representative of the Doncaster Company.

She enjoyed outdoor activities, especially raising flowers and vegetables in her garden. She was a member of the United Church of Christ-Congregational and the Sunset Club of Grinnell.

She is survived by one son, John D. Poynter of San Francisco, Calif., and one daughter Mary Jane (MJ) Zimmerman of Grinnell; three grandchildren and three great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband; one son-in-law, one grandson, one sister and four brothers.