

Betty Jo Collum, 89



Betty Jo Collum, age 89, of Grinnell, died on Monday, January 18, 2016, at the May-

flower Community Health Care Center in Grinnell.

A funeral service was held Friday, January 22, 2016, at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell with Fr. Ron Hodges, pastor of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Grinnell, officiating. Pallbearers were Nathan, Caleb and Jacob Brown, Joey Gallagher, Mike Jones, and Jeff McNurlen. Private family interment will be at Rock Creek Cemetery west of Grinnell.

Visitation was Thursday at the Smith Funeral Home with the family present during the evening.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorials to be given to the Olivia Grace Schwickerath Medical Fund, mailed in care of the Smith Funeral Home, PO Box 368, Grinnell, Iowa 50112.

Memories and condolences may be shared with the family online at www.smithfh.com.

Betty Jo Belles was born the daughter of Elsie Jane Belles on October 1, 1926, in Grinnell, Iowa. She was raised in Malcom, Iowa and graduated from Malcom High School with the class of 1944, where she was a very good basketball player.

Following her education, she worked for General Telephone Company in Grinnell. She was united in marriage to John Dean "Jackie" Collum on February 28, 1947 in Grinnell. Jackie was a professional baseball player and the family lived in many places during his time with the Chicago Cubs, St. Louis Cardinals, Los Angeles Dodgers, Cleveland Indians, Minnesota Twins and Cincinnati Reds. In 1964, the family moved back to Grinnell and Jackie owned and operated Pioneer Oil and Betty managed the accounting. She was a member of St. Ma-

ry's Catholic Church in Grinnell and a lifetime member of the Grinnell Eagles Club.

Betty was a devoted mother who always provided for her family. She grew up poor and made sure her children were taught the fundamental values of life. She was a wonderful cook and was famous for her homemade bread and Christmas candies. Her enjoyments included cooking, gardening, canning, crocheting and fishing on the Puls family farm pond.

Betty is survived by three sons, Tom (Marianne) and Bill Collum, both of Grinnell, and Chris (Christine) Collum of Cedar Rapids, Iowa; three daughters, Kathy Locey, Deb Gallagher, Terry (Jim) Brown and, all of Grinnell; 11 grandchildren; and 10 great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Jack Collum in 2009; brother, Boyd Belles; two great grandchildren, Ryan and Grace Schwickerath; and her best friend, Sybil Puls.

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A funeral service will be held at 10:30 a.m., Friday, Jan. 22, at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell with Fr. Ron Hodges, pastor of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Grinnell, officiating.

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