Charlotte ‘Charlee’ Compo

Charlotte ‘Charlee’ Compo, 68, of Rock Creek Lake near Grinnell, died Wednesday, Jan. 20, 2016, at Iowa River Hospice in Marshalltown surrounded by her family.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m., Monday, Feb. 22, 2016, at St. Mary’s Catholic Church in Grinnell with the Rev. Ron Hodges, pastor of the church, officiating. A gathering will be held following the service in the hall of the church.

Memorials may be directed to the Wounded Warrior Project or to PALS and sent in care of the Smith Funeral Home, P.O. Box 368, Grinnell, Iowa 50112.

Charlotte was born on June 20, 1948, in Sarasota, Fla. She was adopted by Carl and Vivian Hatcher Boyett and they raised her in Colquitt and Albany, Ga. She graduated from Albany High School with the Class of 1966. On July 10, 1966, she was united in marriage to her high school sweetheart, Thomas P. Compo. Tom served with the United States Air Force during the Vietnam War and the family lived in various states during his military service. The family settled in Milton, Fla., following Tom’s military service and she worked as a dental assistant. They moved to Rock Creek Lake near Grinnell in the early 1990s and she began her dream career in earnest as an author. She published over 90 novels and short stories and she had several more in contract phase at the time of her death.

She was a member of St. Mary’s Catholic Church and served as the church secretary for a few years. Her hobbies included reading, writing, gardening and raising her pet cats.

Survivors include her two sons, Pete Compo of Grinnell and Mike Compo of Kellogg, two grandchildren; and one great granddaughter.

She was preceded in death by her husband and her parents.