GRINNELL RESIDENT

Ruth Higdon, 96

Ruth Higdon, 96, of Grinnell, died on Tuesday, January 24, 2017, at the Mayflower Health Care Center.

Mass of the Resurrection will be held Saturday, January 28, 2017, at St. Mary’s Catholic Church in Grinnell with Rev. Ron Hodges, pastor of the church officiating. Music will be provided by Marilyn Kriegel and St. Mary’s Choir. Casket bearers will be her grandchildren, Patricia McNally, Peter McNally, Robert (Nancy) Higdon, Jonathon Trebe, John Higdon and Christina Higdon. Gift bearers will be Eileen McNally, Cameron McNally and Claire McNally. Interment will be in the Calvary section of Hazelwood Cemetery in Grinnell.

Friends may call at the Smith Funeral Home beginning at 12 noon on Friday and the family will be present at the funeral home from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Friday. A scripture service will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Friday at the funeral home.

Memorials may be directed to either St. Mary’s Catholic Church or to the Mayflower Community.

Ruth was born on March 4, 1920, in Grinnell, Iowa, to Elmer and Myrtle Broders Baustian. She was raised on the family farm, attended rural school and graduated with the class of 1937 from Grinnell High School.

On September 28, 1939, she was married to James Thomas Higdon at St. Mary’s Catholic Church in Grinnell. The couple operated a grain and livestock farm south of Grinnell. She was a mother of five children and a homemaker. Later, she worked for J.C. Penny and Company, the Grinnell State Bank and the food services of Grinnell College, the Grinnell Country Club and the Mayflower Community.

Ruth was a faithful member of St. Mary’s Catholic Church, the Altar and Rosary, the Blue Point Friendship Club and the hospital auxiliary. She enjoyed spending time with her family and socializing with friends.

Survivors include her daughter, Karen (Bill) McNally of Grinnell; four sons, Robert (Nancy) Higdon of Sycamore, Ill., Michael Higdon of McAllen, Texas, Paul (Mary) Higdon of Maple Grove, Minn., and Mark Higdon of Newton, Iowa; eight grandchildren; two step-grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; and one great great-grandson.

She was preceded in death by her husband; two sisters, Doris Lindley and Lola Sears; and one brother, Donald G. Baustian.