Mary H. Healy

Mary H. Healy, 98, of Grinnell, a resident of Mayflower, died Saturday, April 7, 2007, at Grinnell Regional Medical Center after spending the day with two nephews, their wives, two great nieces and one great great nephew.

A funeral service was held Thursday, April 12, at St. Mary's Catholic Church with the Rev. William Reynolds, pastor of the church, officiating. Music was provided by Marilyn Kriegel, organist, and St. Mary's Choir. Casket bearers were Chris McCann, Tom McCann, Thomas Byrne, Jack Byrne, Jerry Byrne, Ricky Byrne and David Byrne. Interment was in Hazelwood Cemetery beside her husband, the late Col. J.F. (Frank) Healy. Memorials in her name may be directed to the St. Mary's Foundation in care of Smith Funeral Home, PO Box 368, Grinnell IA 50112.

She was born Oct. 10, 1908, in Victor to James and Carrie Hart McCann. When she was five years old, the family moved to Grinnell where she was raised, graduating from Grinnell High School. She attended Gem Busines College in Quincy, Ill., and then worked as a bookkeeper in various Grinnell businesses. She moved to Cedar Rapids where she was a bookkeeper and office manager for Iowa Steel and Iron Works and where she met her future husband, J.F. (Frank) Healy, a Cedar Rapids attorney. They were married on June 10, 1943, at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base Chapel. During his career, as her husband achieved the rank of full colonel, his duty took them to Dayton, Ohio; New York City; Honolulu, Hawaii; San Antonio, Texas; Washington, D.C., and twice to Japan. She held a variety of positions which included an accounts manager for a department store in Dayton, an account manager of Non-Appropriated Funds for air force clubs, as a Red Cross Gray Lady, and in assisting Japanese high school students in study of conversational English.

She and Col Healy lived in Fair Oaks, Calif., a Sacramento suburb, for 27 years prior to her return to Grinnell. She was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Grinnell, and enjoyed traveling to Japan, the Philippines and Hong Kong, as well as reading and crafts. It was mentioned of her ancestors that each was "true to his or her faith," which also was true of Mrs. Healy.

She is survived by her sister Margaret McCann of Grinnell; two nephews, Chris McCann of Mequon, Wis., and Tom McCann of Cedar Rapids. She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband and four brothers, James, John and Michael McCann and an infant brother.