Melba C. Strickler

⸰ Melba C. Strickler, 82, of Grinnell died on Saturday, Aug. 11, 2007, at Grinnell Regional Medical Center.

⸰A memorial service for Melba Strickler will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 15, at St. John's Lutheran Church in Grinnell, with Pastor Jeff Johnson, a relative from San Francisco, officiating. Organist will be Margaret Amo and vocalist will be Milton Severe. A private family burial will be at Hazelwood Cemetery in Grinnell.

Friends may call at Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell from 6 to 8 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 14.

She was born March 14, 1925, in Dike, Iowa, to Robert and Agnes Snydergaard Johnson. She was raised in Dike and graduated from Dike High School in 1942. She received a teaching certificate at Iowa State Teacher's College in Cedar Falls and taught school at Greene and later Estherville.

On June 12, 1949, she married Roscoe Strickler in Fredsville. The couple lived in Estherville, Sioux Falls, Atkins and Algona before moving to Grinnell in 1958. In 1970, she received a bachelor's degree in elementary education from William Penn University in Oskaloosa. She taught at Parker and Bailey Park Elementary Schools in Grinnell and later at Grinnell Middle School. She retired in 1987.

She was a member of St. John's Lutheran Church in Grinnell, Entre Nous Book Club, sit & Knit Club, Delta Kappa Gamma, Pi Rho Lambda, the ISEA, and the NEA. She enjoyed birds, knitting, playing bridge, reading, cooking and solving crossword puzzles. She was an avid Chicago Cubs fan and enjoyed traveling.

She is survived by three children, Susan Heider of Spokane, Wash., Jim of Evanston, Ill., and David of Toledo, Ohio two brothers, Dale Johnson of Morro Bay, Calif., and Richard Johnson of DeWitt a sister, Janet Porter of Champaign, Ill.; five grandchildren; and two step-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband; three brothers, Edward, Wendell and Glenn and a sister, Lenora Madsen.

Memorials may be directed to St. John's Lutheran Church or to Grinnell Regional Hospice.