J. Viola Roberts, 100

J. Viola Roberts, 100, of Grundy Center died Tuesday, Jan. 15, 2008, at the Grundy County Memorial Hospital in Grundy Center while under the care of Cedar Valley Hospice.

Her funeral service was held on Friday, Jan. 18, at the Grundy Center United Methodist Church in Grundy Center with Pastor Matt Miller officiating. Burial followed at the Community Church Cemetery in rural Deep River. Engelkes-Abels Funeral Home in Grundy Center was in charge of the arrangements. Memorials may be directed to the Grundy Center United Methodist Church or Cedar Valley Hospice. To send messages of condolences, please visit www.abelsfuneralhomes.com.

J. Viola Grimm was born May 30, 1907 in Dayton Township, Iowa County, the daughter of Connie E. and Elva Ethel (Sparrow) Grimm. She accepted Christ at the age of 14 and joined the Community Church of Deep River in 1921. On Feb. 19, 1929, she was united in marriage to William J. Roberts and to this union were born a son, Melvin, and daughter, Imogene. She lived on a farm in Iowa County until moving to Deep River with her family on Jan. 1, 1941. She transferred membership to the Deep River United Methodist Church in 1944 and taught children’s Sunday School for several years. Viola’s husband died on Dec. 10, 1953. After William’s death, Viola cooked in the Deep River-Millersburg School System for 20 years. She also owned and operated Dairy Crème during the summer months for 16 years. She moved to Grundy Center on Aug. 3, 1983 and transferred her church membership to the Grundy Center United Methodist Church on March 11, 1984.

She is survived by her son, Melvin Roberts, and his wife, Willie, of Sioux Falls, S.D.; daughter Imogene Schultz and her husband, Arnie, of Grundy Center; seven grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren, and five great-great-grandchildren; and by three step-grandchildren, and 10 step-great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, and by brothers Dean, Eugene and Ernest Grimm, and her sister, Ethel Lortz.