Rosemary Benson

Rosemary Benson, 72, of Grinnell died Monday, June 9, 2008, at Skiff Medical Center in Newton.

A funeral service will take place Friday, June 13, at 10:30 a.m. at the Grinnell United Methodist Church with the Rev. Len Eberhart officiating. Pallbearers will be Bryan Benson, Duane Bos, Clint and Devin Hansen, Kevin Lincoln and Kyle Pedersen. Visitation will be from 12 noon to 8 p.m. Thursday at Smith Funeral Home with family members present from 6 to 8 p.m. Memorials may be made to the Grinnell United Methodist Church, Jasper County Hospice or Kellogg EMT.

She was born Aug. 20, 1935, in Grinnell, the daughter of Albert and Alice Robinson Lincoln. She was raised in Monroe and was a graduate of Monroe High School. On April 24, 1954, she was united in marriage with Jerry Benson in the Kellogg United Methodist Church. They operated the Standard Oil service station in Kellogg for several years before moving to a farm east of Grinnell. In 1966 they moved to their current farm in Rock Creek Township.

She was employed for 15 years at the Tastee Freeze, later the Grinnell Dairy Barn, and more recently part-time with her daughter at Hawkeye Tack in Des Moines. She was a member of the Farm Bureau and Rock Creek Neighbors. In 1970, her family was selected as the Farm Family of the Year in Jasper County and the Southeast Iowa District.

She enjoyed cooking and was considered a master at baking. She also enjoyed collecting cookbooks, Pillsbury Doughboy items, and Western-themed statues. For many years, she enjoyed driving her children throughout the Midwest to horse shows and watching them participate.

She is survived by her husband Jerry Benson of Grinnell; three children, Sherry Hansen of Prairie City, Brett Benson of Oklahoma City and Bart Benson of Gilman; her stepfather, Ralph Bates of Newton; one brother, Richard Lincoln of Newton; one step-brother, Dale Hume of Monroe; two half sisters, Patricia Johnson of Albia and Joyce Palm of Monroe, and six grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents; one son Terry Benson, and one step-sister, Pauline Fales.