Ruth L. Louden, 89, of Grinnell, died Tuesday, June 24, 2008, at St. Francis Manor in Grinnell.

Funeral services for Ruth Louden were held today (Monday) at 10:30 a.m. at Smith Funeral Home, with Rev. Susan Sanming officiating. Interment was in Hazelwood Cemetery in Grinnell.

Born Jan. 18, 1919, in Dubuque, she was the daughter of Harold and Martha Saugi Sippel. She was raised and educated in Dubuque and attended the University of Dubuque, graduating from its Music Conservatory.

She married John “Jack” R. Cullen in 1951, and the couple resided in Burlington, then moved to Grinnell in 1955. After her first husband’s death in 1972, she married Donald Louden in 1978.

She was a member of the United Church of Christ – Congregational in Grinnell. She loved animals and advocated for the Humane Society. She enjoyed needlework, including crocheting and knitting.

She is survived by her daughter, Susan Schober of Irvine, Calif.; two grandsons; a brother, Robert Sippel of Marion; and her nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents and her husband.

Memorials may be directed to Grin-