

GH 5/15/08

Clarence McIlrath

Clarence "Cookie" McIlrath, 81, of Grinnell, formerly of Victor, died Sunday, May 11, 2008, at Friendship Manor.

A funeral mass was held Wednesday, May 14, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Grinnell with the Rev. William Reynolds officiating. Memorial contributions may be directed to St. Mary's Catholic Church.

The son of David Nathaniel and Tillie Viola Bees McIlrath, he was born Feb. 11, 1927, in Brooklyn. He was raised in Hartwick and was a graduate of Hartwick High School. He attended the Paris Beauty School in Cedar Rapids and later Ren's Beauty School in Long Beach, Calif. He was employed for several years at a salon in Long Beach, then moved to Victor where he operated a beauty shop for nearly 38 years. Following his retirement, he moved to Grinnell where for many years he was employed at Hardee's making biscuits. He has been a resident of Friendship Manor since November 2007.

He was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church. He loved music, flowers, cooking and socializing with people.

He is survived by his sister-in-law, Anna McIlrath of Laguna Woods, Calif.; several nieces, all of California, and several cousins. He was preceded in death by his parents and one brother, Everett McIlrath.