Mary Grace Terlouw, 83, Grinnell

Mary Grace Terlouw, 83, of Grinnell died December 14, 2008, at St. Francis Manor in Grinnell.

Funeral services have been scheduled for 10:30 a.m. Thursday, December 18, at the Lynnville Friends Church with the Rev. Doug Smiley officiating. M. Terlouw Organist will be Bernice Smith, pianist will be Lori Terlouw, and vocalist will be Curt Braaksma. Pallbearers will be Doug, Dennis, and Kevin Terlouw, Jason Allbee, Blake Korns, and Dwight Ver Steeg. Burial will be in the Sully Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be directed to the Lynnville Friends Church or Lynnville Library.

Mary Grace was born November 4, 1925, on the family farm, in Jasper County, near Sully, Iowa, to Guybert and Gertrude (Van Arkel) Van Wyk. She attended Dairy Grove Country School near her home. During World War II, she was employed at the Kellogg Factory and then at the Sully Café.

On February 20, 1948, she was married to Henry J. Terlouw, in Sully, Iowa, a union of 60 years. The couple farmed in the Bethel Community, rural Jasper County, where she was a homemaker and farm wife throughout her life. She was an active member of the Lynnville Friends Church and enjoyed church events and activities such as Primary Department Superintendent, Senior Citizens, and the church quilting group.

Mary Grace loved her life on the farm and enjoyed the outdoors and nature. She especially enjoyed her walks through the farm pastures and at their pond, gardening and canning her produce, and crocheting afghans. Most importantly, she loved family gatherings and spending time with her granddaughters and great-grandchildren.

Survivors include her husband, Henry J. Terlouw of rural Grinnell; two daughters, Ronda (Arvin) Lanson and Rashele (Phil) Nikkel, both of Sully; four granddaughters, Dawn (Jason) Allbee of Sully, Trisha (Blake) Korns of Pella, and Andrea and Shannon Nikkel, both of Sully; four great-grandchildren, Derik and Logan Allbee of Sully and Olivia and Andrew Korns of Pella; one brother, David (Edith) Van Wyk of Grinnell; one sister, Faycola (Gerrit) Stouwie of Pella; two brothers-in-law, Gerritt and Bob Terlouw, both of Grinnell; and five sisters-in-law, Tunnet Van Wyk of Otley, Nellie Van Wyk of Pella, Jennie Terlouw of Grinnell, Donna Terlouw of Lynnville, and Lois Vander Schel of Pella. She was preceded in death by her parents; five brothers, Will, Cornie, Henry, Burt, and Marion Van Wyk; and six sisters, Carrie Braaksma, Mattie DeHoedt, Minnie Ver Steeg, Gertie Ver Steegt, Alenis Brush, and Jenneta Antle.
Survivors include her husband, Henry J. Terlouw of rural Grinnell; two daughters, Ronda Lanser and Rashele Nikkel, both of Sully; four granddaughters; four great-grandchildren; one brother, David Van Wyk of Grinnell and one sister, Fayeola Stouwie of Pella. She was preceded in death by her parents; five brothers, Will, Cornie, Henry, Bert, and Marion Van Wyk and six sisters, Carrie Braaksma, Mattie Defoedt, Minnie Ver Steegt, Gertie Ver Steegt, Alenis Brush, and Jennetta Antle.


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Gene Zell

He enjoyed bowling, golfing, fishing, hunting, and playing cards. He was also an avid Green Bay Packer fan and a Wisconsin Badger fan.

Survivors include his wife, Dee Dee Zell of Grinnell; one son, Todd Zell of Grinnell; and one daughter, Tonya Kuntz of Brooklyn. He was preceded in death by his parents.


A scripture service will be held Friday, Dec. 19, at 11 a.m. at St. Mary’s Catholic Church with the Rev. Nick Adam, pastor of the church, officiating. Music will be provided by Marilyn Kriegel, organist, and St. Mary’s Choir. Honorary bearers will be members of the Grinnell American Legion, the Grinnell VFW and the Knights of Columbus. A graveside service will be held, Monday, Dec. 22, 2008, at 1 p.m. at the Kroghville Cemetery near Lake Mills, Wis.

Friends may call at Smith Funeral Home Thursday beginning at 1 p.m. with family members present from 4 to 7 p.m. Memorials may be made to the Gene Zell Memorial Fund.

He was born July 19, 1941, in Wausau, Wis., to Isadore and Nina Flisch Zell. He was raised in Wausau where he graduated from high school. Following his education he served with the United States Army and later worked as an engineer for General Telephone Company in Sun Prairie, Wis.

On Sept. 13, 1980, he was united in marriage with Dorothy (Dee Dee) Duckert in Cottage Grove, Wis. The couple lived in Bloomington, Ill. and in 1987 they moved to Grinnell. He retired from General Telephone Company in 1993. Following his retirement he worked in the Grinnell area as a handyman with Tom Fitzgerald. Most recently he managed the Poweshiek County Veteran Affairs Office in Grinnell.

He was a member of St. Mary’s Catholic Church; the Knights of Columbus, the Eagles Lodge, Oakland Acres Golf Course and the American Legion.
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