

Ruth Bru



L-R September 18, 1997

Ruth Mellrath Bru, 90, of Grinnell died Sunday, Sept. 14, at St. Francis Manor.

Funeral services were conducted Thursday morning at the Smith Funeral Home, with the Rev. Michael Smith of the First Presbyterian Church of Grinnell officiating. Barbara Lien was organist, and Ruby Herman was soloist.

Pallbearers were Delmar Adkins, Ed Hardon, Fred Johnson, Bob Jones, Wendell Kinnaird and Leonard Lukehart. Honorary bearers were Dr. Robert Bauman; David Jones; the Rev. Howard Lord; George Morris and Wayne Mellrath; and John Peak.

Burial was in Graceland Cemetery, Laurel.

The daughter of Thomas Hugh and Christina Bloom Mellrath, she was born Feb. 25, 1907, in Laurel. The family moved to a farm east of Grinnell, and she attended rural schools. The family moved into town, and she graduated from Grinnell High School in 1924 and from Grinnell College in 1928.

She taught for two years in Frenchburg, Ky.

In 1933, she was married to Paul W. Lincoln in Grinnell. Mr. Lincoln died in 1942. She moved to McAllen, Texas, in 1947 and taught school there for 15 years.

She was married to Roy Gifford in 1952. They made their home in McAllen until his death in 1980, after which she returned to Iowa to live, first in Laurel and then in Grinnell.

She was a member of the Grinnell First Presbyterian Church, the Laurel Ladies Club, Laurel Study Club, Gilman Good Neighbor Club and Phi Rho Lambda of Grinnell.

Surviving are one daughter, Elizabeth Anne Miller of Arlington, Texas; two granddaughters; and two great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents and her husbands.

Memorial contributions in Mrs. Bru's name may be made to the Grinnell First Presbyterian Church, Grinnell Regional Hospice or Casa de Esperanza in Pharr, Texas.

Paul W. Lincoln

Roy Gifford

Roy Bru