

8-7-2002 **Jessie M. Gerard, 98**

Mrs. Jessie M. Gerard, 98, of Grinnell, died Monday, Aug. 5, at the Mayflower Home Health Care Center, Grinnell.

A graveside service will be held Wednesday, Aug. 7, at 11 a.m., at the Pleasant Township Cemetery near Ewart with the Rev. Tim Stewart of the First Baptist Church, Grinnell, officiating. Casket Bearers will be members of her family. Friends may call at the Smith Funeral Home, Grinnell, beginning 8 a.m. Wednesday and the family will be present at the funeral home from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday.

Jessie was born Dec. 5, 1903, near Ewart to Mose Miller and Gertrude May (Wassom) Jacob. She attended rural schools and Montezuma High School. Following her education, she worked for the Wassom

Grocery Store at Montezuma.

She was married to Harold C. Gerard Feb. 12, 1924, at Grinnell. The couple farmed for 17 years near Montezuma and moved to Grinnell in the early 1940s. She worked at the former Southside Grocery Store and at Fudge's Hatchery at Grinnell. She retired in 1964 and has resided at Brookside South for the past 18 years. She was a member of the First Baptist Church of Grinnell.

She was preceded in death by her husband; one son, Robert; one daughter, Norma Parker; and two sisters, Irma Jeffrey and Freda Opdahl.

She is survived by her daughter, Barbara R. Mallory of Washington, Ill.; nine grandchildren; 19 great grandchildren; and 10 great-great-grandchildren.

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She was the daughter of Mose Miller and Gertrude May Wassom Jacob and was born Dec. 5, 1903 near Ewart. She attended rural schools and Montezuma High School, then worked for the Wassom Grocery Store in Montezuma.

On Feb. 12, 1924, she was married to Harold C. Gerard in Grinnell. They farmed for 17 years near Montezuma, moving to Grinnell in the early 1940s. She worked at the former Southside Grocery Store and at Fudge's Hatchery in Grinnell. She retired in 1964 and had resided at Brookside South for the past 18 years.

She was a member of the Grinnell, First Baptist Church.

Surviving are her daughter, Barbara R. Mallory of Washington, Ill.; nine grandchildren; 19 great-grandchildren; and 10 great-great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband; her parents; one son, Robert; one daughter, Norma Parker; and two sisters, Irma Jeffrey and Freda Opdahl.

I.R. 8-8-2002