Gwendolyn Ann Magurshak

Gwendolyn Ann Magurshak, 20, of Grinnell died of complications from pneumonia Saturday, Jan. 13, at St. Mary’s Medical Center in Racine, Wis.

Services were conducted Jan. 17 at the First Presbyterian Church in Grinnell, with the Rev. Mike Smith officiating. Participants in music, thanksgivings and remembrances included John Rommreim, Rebecca Stuhr, Karin Stein, Michelle Tate, John Paul Mohan, Phil Moore, Mark Paulson, Wes Phillips, Sarah Wilhelm, Richard Lukomski and Lisa Cadmus.

A memorial service at Northwestern University is pending.

Gwendolyn Magurshak was born Aug. 31, 1980. She graduated from Grinnell High School in 1998 with honors in English, mathematics and social studies. While at GHS, she lettered in soccer, served on the student council and participated in speech, theater and choir. She was a 1998 All-State Speech Contest winner in 1998. She also was involved in debate and mock trial.

She had performed in several theater productions and was a member of the Curtain Club and the International Thespian Society.

She was the recipient of the President’s Academic Effort Award, received National Merit commendation and participated in the state Odyssey of the Mind.

She was a junior and an honor student at Northwestern University where she was studying drama at the School of Speech. She was on the university’s dean’s list and worked at the speech department. She was also involved in charitable work at Northwestern.

Surviving are her mother, Trudy Magurshak of Grinnell; her father, Dan Magurshak of Racine, Wis.; her sister, Jeanine Magurshak of Arlington, Va.; her brother, Adam Borkhus of Racine; and her grandparents, Pat Biiger of Newton, Pa., and Kay Magurshak of Duquesne, Pa.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Grinnell High School Fine Arts Alliance.

Gwen Magurshak

Gwen Magurshak, 21, of Grinnell, died Saturday, Jan. 13, in St. Mary’s Medical Center in Racine, Wis., of staphylococcal pneumonia.

Services will be held Wednesday, Jan. 17, at 10:30 a.m. at First Presbyterian Church. The family will receive friends at Smith Funeral Home Tuesday evening.

Friends may call the funeral home for additional information.

A graduate of Grinnell High School, she was a student at Northwestern University, Evanston.

She is survived by her mother, Trudy Magurshak of Grinnell; her father Dan Magurshak of Racine and one sister Jeanine Magurshak of Washington, D.C.