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Mary Jean Souter, 80

Mary Jean Souter, 80, of Montezuma, died on Sunday; December 21, 2003, at the Montezuma Nursing and Rehabilitation Center.

Friends may call at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell beginning at 9 a.m. Friday. The family will be present at the funeral home between 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. that day.

A funeral service will be held 10:30 a.m. Saturday, December 27, at the Smith Funeral Home, with the Rev. Burr Bryant, pastor of the Montezuma United Methodist Church, officiating. Burial will be in the Jackson Township Cemetery in Montezuma.



The casket bearers will be Rhea Osland, Dennis Rankin, Joe Scurr, Steve Scurr, Debbie Smith, Rhonda Wells, Greg Wisgerhof and Jeff Wisgerhof.

The honorary casket bearers will be Larry and Jeanie Steele, Gene Story, and members of the Willing Workers Club of Montezuma.

Memorials may be directed to the Montezuma Ambulance Service or to the Ewart United Presbyterian Church in care of Smith Funeral Home, P.O. Box 368, Grinnell, IA 50112.

Mary Jean Souter, the daughter of Frank and Mary Lela Beeler Wells, was born July 25, 1923, on the family farm north of Montezuma. The family moved to the Grinnell area to farm, and she graduated from Grinnell High School in 1941. She received her teaching certificate from the Iowa State Teacher's College in Cedar Falls. Following her education, she taught in rural schools near Ewart and Montezuma.

On October 15, 1941, she married Robert Souter at the Methodist parsonage in Grinnell. The couple lived on various farms near Montezuma, Malcom and Brooklyn before they settled on a farm near Guernsey. The couple operated a dairy and grain farm for 27 years. They moved to Montezuma in 1982.

In addition to helping her husband with the farm operation, she worked at the Brooklyn Locker, the Montezuma Manufacturing Company, and in the dietary department at the Montezuma Nursing Home.

Mary Jean is survived by her husband, Robert, of Montezuma; two grandsons, Chad Legg of Union and Jeremy Souter of Whitehouse, Tex; and two great-grandsons.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her daughter, Barbara Legg; one sister, Pauline Rankin; and one brother, Clair Wells.

DEC. 24, 2003

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vice will be held at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, Dec. 27, at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell with the Rev. Burr Bryant, pastor of the Montezuma United Methodist Church, officiating. Pianist will be Kathleen McCune and vocalist will be Terry Osborne. Burial will be at the Jackson Township Cemetery in Montezuma.

Casket bearers will be Rhea Osland, Dennis Rankin, Joe Scurr, Steve Scurr, Debbie Smith, Rhonda Wells, Greg Wisgerhof and Jeff Wisgerhof.

Honorary bearers will be Larry and Jeanie Steele, Gene Story, and members of the Willing Worker's Club of Montezuma.

Friends may call at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell beginning at 9 a.m., Friday, and the family will be present at the funeral home from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Friday.

Mary was born on July 25, 1923, on the family farm north of Montezuma to Frank and Mary Lela Beeler Wells. The family moved to the Grinnell area to farm, and she graduated from Grinnell High School with the Class of 1941. She received her teaching certificate from the Iowa State Teacher's College in Cedar Falls. Following her education, she taught in rural schools near Ewart and Montezuma.

On Oct. 15, 1941, Mary Jean was married to Robert Souter at the Methodist parsonage in Grinnell. The couple lived on various farms near Montezuma, Malcom and Brooklyn before settling on a farm near Guernsey. The couple operated a dairy and grain farm for 27 years and moved to Montezuma in 1982. Besides assisting her husband with the farm operation, she worked at the Brooklyn Locker, the Montezuma Manufacturing Company and in the dietary department of the Montezuma Nursing Home.

Her husband, Robert Souter of Montezuma; two grandsons, Chad Legg of Union and Jeremy Souter of Whitehouse, Texas; and two great-grandsons, Chance and Carson Souter, survive her.

Her daughter, Barbara Legg; one sister, Pauline Rankin, and one brother, Clair Wells, preceded her in death.

Should friends desire, memorials may be directed to the Montezuma Ambulance Service or to the Ewart United Presbyterian Church and sent in care of the Smith Funeral Home, P.O. Box 368, Grinnell, lowa 50112.

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A funeral service will be held at N 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 27, at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell, with burial at the Jackson Township Cemetery in Montezuma.

Friends may call at the Smith Funeral
Home beginning at noon on Friday,
Dec. 26; the family will be present at the
funeral home from 6 to 8 p.m. that day.
Mary Jean Souter is survived by her

husband, Robert Souter of Montezuma.

Memorials may be directed to the
Montezuma Ambulance Service or to
the Ewart Presbyterian Church.

(ROBERT)