

## Jane Wassom



Jane Delores Becknell Wassom, 93, of Grinnell died Tuesday, Feb. 24, 2004, at Mayflower Health Care Center.

A funeral service was held Saturday, Feb. 28, at St. John's Lutheran Church with the Rev. Stephen Jasch officiating. Organist was Margaret Arno. Pallbearers were Paul Davoux, Shawn Kirby, Jack Templeton, Gregory and John Wassom and Jim White. Burial was in Hazelwood Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to the Mayflower Poetry Club or St. John's Lutheran Church.

She was born June 21, 1910, in Waterloo, the daughter of Daniel and Leah Erbe Becknell. She attended Waterloo public schools and graduated from Waterloo East High School in 1928. She was a 1932 graduate of Iowa State Teachers College with a degree in English and taught in several Iowa communities.

She was married on Aug. 23, 1936, in Waterloo to Samuel Jesse Wassom. They lived in a variety of Iowa communities before moving to Grinnell in 1948. She taught in 1954 in Kellogg

and in 1956 in the Grinnell school district, also serving as librarian at Grinnell Junior High School. She was a member of St. John's Lutheran Church and Mayflower Poetry Club. She was a published poet both locally and in Lyrical Iowa. In the fall of 2003, one of her poems was set to music for the performance of "Roots of Renewal" by Craig Thomas Naylor and sung by the Grinnell High School Choir.

She is survived by one son, John C. Wassom, Bowling Green, Ky.; two daughters, Jeanne M. Iburg, Groton, Mass., and Marilyn Mottaz, Fulton, Mo.; six grandchildren; five great grandchildren and one sister, Nina Funk, Sarasota Springs, Utah. She was preceded in death by her parents and her husband.

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HTB FEB. 26, 2004