

## Clara Byam Brown



Clara Byam Brown, 93, of Grinnell died on Friday, March 24, 2006, at the Mayflower Home Health Care Center.

A memorial service for Clara Brown will be held at 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 29, at the Mayflower Home's Carman Center, with the Rev. John Saxton, chaplain of the Mayflower Homes, and the Rev. Kathy Reid, pastor of the United Church of Christ-Congregational, officiating. Pianist will be Pat Saxton. Casket bearers will include Douglas, Gregory, Cody and Matthew Brown, Paul and David Harrington and Kevin Wolff. A private burial will be held at Hazelwood Cemetery on Wednesday afternoon.

Friends may call at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell from 9 a.m. to noon on Wednesday.

Born Sept. 24, 1912, in Sioux Rapids, Iowa, she was the daughter of Howard and Ada Cummings Byam. She was raised in Sioux Rapids and graduated from high school there, then earned a degree in home economics education at Iowa State University, graduating there in 1938. Following her education, she was a home demonstration agent in western Iowa.

On Dec. 15, 1940, she married George Alwin Brown in Ames. The couple operated a grain and poultry farm south of Grinnell. They also

worked in partnership for the Cedar Valley Farm Business Association for 26 years.

In February of 1993, she moved to the Mayflower Home in Grinnell.

She was an active member of the United Church of Christ-Congregational, where she worked diligently in the 1950s to raise funds to build the current church. She also served on various church committees. She was a member of the Poweshiek County 4-H Board and served as a 4-H leader to the Grant Girls' Group, also serving as a judge for surrounding clubs and county fairs. She was a member of Chapter JB, PEO and taught adult education courses in sewing and tailoring.

Her hobbies included playing bridge, reading, sewing, quilting, embroidery and conversing with friends.

She is survived by her children, Nancy Wolff, Greg Brown and Doug Brown, all of Grinnell, and Diane Harrington of Mount Vernon; six grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, a daughter, Judith Kay Brown, a sister, Mae Davis, a brother, P.L. Byam, and a great-grandson.

Memorial may be directed to Grinnell Regional Hospice or to the Mayflower Home Human Needs Fund.

GTH March 27, 2006