

Madge Gilbreath



Madge Gilbreath, 86, of Newton, formerly of Gilman, died Sunday, June 4, 2006, at USA Health Care in Newton. A funeral service was held Thursday, June 8, at

Smith Funeral Home with John Epperson, pastor of Grinnell Christian Church, officiating. Casket bearers were Mark Brooks, Mike Brooks, Jay Brooks, Pat Brooks, and Pat Jennett. Interment was at Jackson Township Cemetery, rural Montezuma. Memorial contributions may be made to Jasper County Hospice in care of Smith Funeral Home, PO Box 368, Grinnell. Online condolences may be submitted to her family on the Smith Funeral Home Website www.smithfh.com.

She was born Oct. 9, 1919, in Newton, the daughter of Ray and Mary Barbee Walker. She was raised and educated in Newton, after which she moved to Grinnell where she was employed at Three Elms Restaurant. She was married in 1940 to Mark D. Brooks and they resided on a farm east of Grinnell. She later was married to Earl Gilbreath on Dec. 13, 1938, in Unionville, Mo. They lived in Grinnell and later in the Rock Creek area. She worked at the Vernon Company in Newton as an order writer for 22 years. In 1995, the couple moved to Gilman.

She enjoyed reading, cards, handwork and was an excellent cook. She also enjoyed animals and collecting dolls as well as antiques. She is survived by two sons, Michael Brooks of Newton and Patrick Brooks of Marshalltown; four grandchildren; one brother M. J. Walker of Sacramento, Calif., and one sister, Marjory Ann Braley of Newton. She was preceded in death by her parents; both her husbands; one brother Max Walker and two sisters, Harriet Cupples and Betty Wallace who died in infancy.