

Beulah A. Strand



Beulah A. Strand, 92, of Grinnell passed from this life on Sunday, Aug. 26, 2007, at Mayflower Health Care Center in Grinnell.

A celebration of life service will be held Saturday, Sept. 1, at 11 a.m. at First Baptist Church in Grinnell with the Rev. Tim Stewart officiating. Interment will be in Hazelwood Cemetery in Grinnell. Friends may call at Smith Funeral Home beginning at noon Friday with family members present to greet friends from 6 to 8 p.m. Memorials may be directed to First Baptist Church or to the Stewart Library Building Fund. On-line condolences may be submitted to the family at the Smith Funeral Home website, www.smithfh.com.

Beulah Amelia Brown was born Sept. 22, 1914, to Harry Adelbert and Leila Parmley Brown in her grandparents' home in Grinnell. She grew up in her parents' farm in the Westfield area three miles south of Grinnell. The farm had been built by her paternal grandfather, George Brown, after he arrived from England in 1868. Her brother Harold continues to farm the same land.

She attended rural school through eighth grade and graduated from Grinnell High School in 1932. She graduated from Des Moines Commercial College, then returned to Grinnell to work at Grinnell College and the Grinnell Glove Factory. On July 6, 1935, she was united in marriage with Clair Strand. Together they owned and operated the United Food Market as well as the first commercial laundromats in Grinnell and Montezuma. In addition to helping her husband with their businesses, she was a homemaker and mother to Charlotte Marie and Betty Ann Strand.

When her husband was elected to the Iowa House of Representatives, she enjoyed serving as his secretary in the Iowa Capitol from 1967 to 1971.

She gave geerously of her time to First Baptist Church in Grinnell; Grinnell public schools, Grinnell Country Club, Grinnell Rebekah Lodge, Grinnell Historical and Literary Society, Sunset Club, Grinnell Hospital Auxiliary, the Republican Party and other community organizations. She loved to travel, dance, read, knit and play bridge and was a founder of one of the longest-running bridge clubs in Grinnell, 62 years. In retirement, she and her husband spent time in Scottsdale, Ariz. She cherished life-long friends made in these activities.

She is survived by her daughter Betty Ludden of Grinnell; six grandchildren; five great grandchildren; her brother Harold Brown and brother-in-law, Don Strand, both of Gilman. She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband Clair in 1984 and her daughter Charlotte Ellis in 2002.

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Beulah Strand, 92, of Grinnell died Sunday, Aug. 26, 2007, at the Mayflower Health Care Center.

Funeral services for Beulah Strand will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 1, at the First Baptist Church in Grinnell. Burial will be in Hazelwood Cemetery.

Visitation will be from noon to 8 p.m. Friday at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell. The family will be present from 5 to 7 p.m.