

HR 11/5/07

Gretchen M. Beck

Gretchen M. Beck, 88, of Grinnell died Friday, Nov. 2, 2007, at Friendship Manor Care Center in Grinnell.

Funeral services for Gretchen Beck were held today (Monday) at Trinity Lutheran Church near Malcom, with interment at Trinity Lutheran Cemetery.

Memorials may be directed to Trinity Lutheran Church and sent in care of Smith Funeral Home. Online condolences may be submitted to the family at www.smithfh.com.

Gretchen Beck



Gretchen M. Beck, 88, of Grinnell died Friday, Nov. 2, 2007, at Friendship Manor in Grinnell.

A funeral service was held Monday, Nov. 5, at Trinity Lutheran Church, rural Malcom, with the Rev. Herb Knudten, pastor of the church, officiating. Interment was in Trinity Lutheran Cemetery. Memorials may be directed to Trinity Lutheran Church. Online condolences to the family may be submitted to www.smithfh.com.

She was born, the daughter of Robert and Lucy Parmley Butler, on Oct. 12, 1919, in Grinnell where she was raised and educated. She was united in marriage with Fred Beck on Aug. 2, 1940, in Lancaster, Mo. They resided in Malcom where they operated an automotive repair and service business for 31 years. She was a cook at Grinnell Middle School and also was employed at Grinnell Mutual Reinsurance.

She was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church. Her enjoyments included embroidering, gardening, dancing and traveling.

She is survived by her daughters, Frances Sisco of Daytona Beach, Fla.; Dorothy Reams of Montezuma and Virginia VanErsvelde of Grinnell; eight grandchildren; 12 great grandchildren, and one sister, Faye Griffith of Pico Rivera, Calif. She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband Fred Beck in 1972; one daughter Erma Schaeffer; her brothers, Lawrence, Arnold, Carl and Robert Butler, and her sisters, Ruby Ahrens, Merle Rink and Grace Duarte.

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