

Mary Ella Harding

(LeROY)

Mary Ella Harding, 84, of Grinnell died Saturday, March 22, at St. Francis Manor.

Funeral services are scheduled for 1:30 p.m. Wednesday at the Smith Funeral Home, with the Rev. Tim Stewart, pastor of the First Baptist Church, officiating. Organist will be Margaret Wheeler, and pallbearers will be Burdette Abel jr., Gordon Abel, Richard Brown, Larry Evans, Dale Miller, Mark McCaffrey, LeLand O'Halloran and Randy Olson. burial will be in Hazelwood Cemetery

The daughter of Burdette A. and Lillian Patton Abel, she was born Nov. 7, 1912, in Grinnell. She attended Grant No. 2 rural school and was a 1929 graduate of Grinnell High School. She attended Grinnell College and later transferred to Highland Park Commercial College in Des Moines. She worked for the Farm Bureau in Brooklyn and later at Grinnell State Bank for several years.

she was married to LeRoy Harding July 31, 1938, in Grinnell. They lived in Oskaloosa and Colorado Springs, Colo., before moving to Brownwood, Texas, in 1951. While in Brownwood she was a secretary for Porter Insurance Agency for several years. The couple returned to Grinnell in 1981, and she had been a resident of St. Francis Manor since 1992.

she was a member of the Central United Methodist Church in Brownwood and later the Grinnell United Methodist Church. She was also a member of the Just-a-Mere Club in Grinnell.

Surviving are a brother, Burdette Abel of Grinnell, and one sister, Anna May Brown, also of Grinnell. She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband; and three sisters, Mina Imhoff, Patty Evans and Elizabeth Lawrence.

AT-R March 24, 1997