

Ruth A. Dayton, 71

Ruth Ann Dayton, 71, of Grinnell, died Sunday, Sept. 8, 2002, at Grinnell Regional Medical Center of Lou Gehrig's Disease.

A funeral was Thursday, Sept. 12, at St. Mary's Catholic Church, with the Rev. William Reynolds officiating. Organist was Marilyn Kriegel. Pallbearers were Joel, John, Jason, and Eric Dayton, Paul Chalupsky and Jacob Billmeyer. Burial was in Hazelwood Cemetery. Memorials are to ALS, Grinnell Regional Hospice, or St. Mary's Catholic Church. Smith Funeral Home, Grinnell, handled arrangements.

Mrs. Dayton was born Jan. 13, 1931, in Grinnell, the daughter of Francis J. and Mary Ellen (Creamer) Schmitz.

She attended rural school near her home and was a 1948 graduate of Grinnell High School.

On May 5, 1951, she married Wayne Dayton in Grinnell, and the couple made their home on a farm on the west edge of Grinnell. She worked for Iowa Telephone

and Telegraph for several years and later for Pagliai's Pizza. She retired in 2001. She belonged to St. Mary's Catholic Church, the Altar and Rosary Society, Marian Study Club, MAC Chorus, St. Mary's Choir, and Chatterton Street Coffee Club. She had belonged to 4-H Club Chester Chaps and Stars and Chester Royal Grange and was also a former CCD teacher and St. Mary's Choir director.

Survivors include her husband, Wayne Dayton of Grinnell; ten children, John Dayton and Tom Dayton of Grinnell, Mary Jo Seaton of Brooklyn, Mark Dayton of West Des Moines, Jim Dayton of Urbandale, Diane Kinseth of Independence, Louise Billmeyer and Carol Schmidt of Ankeny, Ellen Hoffman of Johnston, and Teresa Dayton of Norwalk; and 24 grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents; two brothers, John Jarboe and Raymond Schmitz; and four sisters, Rosemary Gallagher, Wilma, Mildred and Margaret Schmitz.

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She was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church, the Altar and Rosary Society, Marian Study Club, MAC Chorus, St. Mary's Choir and Chatterton Street Coffee Club. She was a former member of the Chester Chaps and Stars 4-H Club and Chester Royal Grange. She was also a former CCD teacher and director of St. Mary's Choir.

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Memorial contributions may be directed to the Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Society, Grinnell Regional

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