

Zeta Barnett, 67

April 2, 1939 - June 11, 2006

SOLDIER — Zeta Rose Barnett was born April 2, 1939, at home near Fiscus in Shelby County, the daughter of Elmer and Pauline (Stolz) Swenson. She attended Kirkman Community School and then onto Irwin where she graduated from high school with the class of 1957. She attended airline school in Kansas City, MO after graduation.

In 1959, Zeta married Ken Richards and moved to Camp Pendleton, CA where Ken was serving in the United States Marine Corp. They had one son, Terry Richards, and one daughter, Tracy Richards. Upon completion of his military service, they returned home and lived on the farm near Kirkman. Later they moved into Kirkman where they had bought their first house. Zeta then became employed with the United States Postal Service and moved to Laurens.

Zeta married Kent Barnett May 14, 1988, at the Little Brown Church in Nashua. From Laurens she went to West Liberty as Postmaster and finally to Bonne Terre, MO from where she retired. During the Laurens years she served as OIC in many other post offices. After retirement Kent and Zeta moved to their present residence near Soldier. She was a member of the Rotary serving as the first woman president of the Rotary in West Liberty, a member of the National League of Postmasters, the Postal Employees Women's Club, the National League of Postmasters-Retirees and was the Editor of the National League of Postmasters Newsletter. She was an active member of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Mapleton along with St. Mary's Guild, having recently served as president of the Guild. She died June 11, 2006 at age 67 years, two months and nine days.

Zeta was preceded in death by her parents, Elmer and Pauline Swenson; one sister, Jeanne Swenson; one brother, Randy Swenson; her daughter, Tracy Richards, and a stepson Rodney Barnett. She is survived by her husband, Kent; her son, Terry Richards (Laurie) of Charter Oak; two sisters, Joyce Huber of Tampa, FL and Jolene Hass (Ken) of Loveland, CO; one brother, Gary "Red" Swenson of Kirkman; four stepsons, Randall Barnett, Richard Barnett, Ronald Barnett, and Roger Barnett; one stepdaughter, Tana Barnett; 10 grandchildren and three great grandchildren and other relatives.

A funeral Mass was held June 14, 2006 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Mapleton with Msgr. Mark Duchaine celebrating. Burial was in the St. Clair Cemetery in Ute with Danny Dimig, Vernon Melby, Steve Wessel, Rev. Fred Pilecki, Don Seufert, Roger Melby, and Duane "Dewey" Neppi casket bearers. Armstrong Funeral Service in charge of arrangements.

