

Ann Frances Henkelman Ortman, 49

Aug. 12, 1947 - June 5, 1997

OMAHA, NE - Ann Frances Henkelman was born Aug. 12, 1947, at Clara Bruck's Nursing Home in Harlan, daughter of Francis C. and Mary Jane (Culotta) Henkelman of Defiance. She was baptized, received her holy communion and confirmation in St. Peter's Catholic Church, Defiance. She attended St. Paul's Grade and High School and graduated in 1965. She received many awards throughout high school. She was an organist at St. Peter's Church while attending school. Upon graduation, she attended Creighton St. Joseph School of Nursing one year. She enrolled at the College of St. Mary's, Omaha, majoring in speech and drama and minoring in English. She graduated in May 1970. She is in the *Book of Who's Who*. She had many production leads in main stage of adults and children's drama. She student taught and taught high school at Notre Dame in Omaha. After Notre Dame closed, she was a financial aid in St. Mary's and co-financial aid at UN Medical Center. She recruited students for the College of St. Mary's. She worked in her husband's office and she was an interior designer. She, her husband and co-workers were chairpersons to raise funds for Duschene Academy. She was involved in the school sports her children attended. She was also very active in her church. She instructed lectors and sang at funerals. She was a member of the Bernina Sewing Club, Metro Medical Society, Alliance, Bergan Mercy staff wives and the Luncheon Group.



Dec. 23, 1972, she married James V. Ortman in Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church in Omaha. To this union four children were born, Julie Ann, Nicole Therese, Christopher James and Catherine Elizabeth Ortman all of Omaha. June 3, 1995 she was diagnosed with cancer. She died June 5, 1997, at her home in Omaha at age 49 years, nine months and 24 days.

She was preceded in death by her infant brother, Frances C. Henkelman, Jr.; her maternal grandparents; her paternal grandparents; and aunts and uncles. She is survived by her husband, Jim, and their children, Julie, Nicki and Chris and Katie all of Omaha; her parents, Francis C. and Mary Jane Henkelman of Defiance; her brothers and sister, Dan (Barbara) Henkelman, Omaha; Ruth Henkelman, Harlan and Clem (Connie) Henkelman, Defiance; her father-in-law and mother-in-law, Vincent and Mary (Cummin) Ortman, Omaha; sisters-in-law and brothers-in-law, Mary (Jim) Watke; Jerry (Sandy) Ortman, Omaha and Sister Margaret Ortman; aunts and uncles, Antoinette and Ruth Culotta, Lockport, LA; her godmother, Anna Culotta, Raceland, LA and Sara (Wilton) Vedros, Lockport, LA; Frank (Marietta) Culotta, Lafayette, LA; Philip (Marie) Culotta, Gulfport, MS; Salvador Jr. (Odellia) Culotta, Metairie, LA; Raymond (Betty) Henkelman; Ardith (Bob) Schaben; Mary Ellen (Laverne) Schmitz all of Defiance; Loretta (Joe) Kenkel, Dunlap; Dorothy (Max) Kenkel, Earling; Agnes (Jay) Menze, Warrenburg, MO and Patti Henkelman, Oxford; nieces, nephews, great nieces and nephews, other relatives and special friends, Rev. Dick Whiteing and Rev. Dave Korth.

Mass of Christian Burial was held at St. Leo's Catholic Church June 9, 1997, with Rev. Dick Whiteing, Rev. Dave Korth and Rev. Pat McCaslin celebrating. Burial was in Calvary Cemetery. The luncheon ladies, who were also casket bearers, were Pat Shanly, Carmel Simmons, Kathy Esch, Sue McDermott, Debbie Titus, Mary Czyr, Pat Edney and Mary Jo Ellis. A balloon was released by her son, Chris, which soared up towards the sky.