

Rita Lynne Zientek, 47

April 29, 1949 - Sept. 12, 1996

BRACEVILLE, IL - Rita Lynne Zientek was born April 29, 1949, in Co. Bluffs, daughter of Earl and Norma Hansen Sorensen. She attended school in Avoca and graduated with the class of 1967. She was baptized in the English Lutheran Church and confirmed in the Trinity Lutheran Church in Avoca. She attended Commercial Extension School in Omaha graduating in 1969. She moved to Hinsdale, NY, where she worked for BOCES, a trade school, as secretary to the Special Education Director for 11 years.

She married Dennis Farewell in 1974. They were the parents of two children, Kris and Mike. In 1981, she moved to Illinois and worked for the Burt Adams Pontiac dealership as secretary for three years.

She married James Zientek Aug. 5, 1983. They were the parents of two daughters, Michelle and Kristi. Besides being a busy homemaker, she worked for COM Edison for one year after which she began selling Avon products. She died at her home in Braceville, IL, Sept. 12, 1996, following a long battle with cancer at age 47 years, four months and 14 days.

She was preceded in death by her father, Earl Sorensen, in 1983. She is survived by her husband, James of Braceville, IL; her children, Michelle and Kristi Zientek of Braceville, and Mike and Kris Farewell both attending college in Houghton, NY; a stepson, James Zientek, Jr. (Gennifer) and her daughter, Savannah, and their son, Adam of Buffalo, NY; her mother and stepfather, Norma and Orval Pierce of Avoca; a sister, Kay Bergonzi of Yankton, SD; a brother, Lee Sorensen of Atlantic; a stepsister, Donna Jo Wright, and a stepbrother, Charles Pierce, both of Oakland; nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Sept. 16, 1996, at the Trinity Lutheran Church, Avoca, with Pastor Paul Bengtson and Lay Assistant Wayne Paulsen officiating. Burial was in the Graceland Cemetery. Casket bearers were Jim Lippold, Jim Leslie, Jim Wendell, Jim Boysen, David Larsen and Steve Marrasso. Knutson Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.