

Verlee (Lee) Leinen, 66

April 21, 1941 - June 29, 2007

ANCHORAGE, AK - Verlee (Lee) Ann Leinen was born April 21, 1941, to Zeno and Viola (Schwery) Leinen on a farm near Portsmouth. She was baptized and confirmed at St. Mary Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church in Portsmouth and attended school at St. Mary's Catholic School. After her graduation from high school in 1959, she attended Marycrest College in Davenport. She transferred to Iowa State University where she graduated in 1963 with her degree in Home Economics. Verlee did her post-graduate work in Vermillion, SD, Laramie, WY, and Fairbanks,



AK. Her first teaching position was in Ottawa, IL, where she stayed for three years. She then spent time teaching in Klickitat, WA, Window Rock, AZ, and Valdez, AK. She worked as a recreational therapist at Harbor View Hospital in Valdez for four years, then operated the Serendipity Gift Shop on Richardson Highway 45 miles outside the city of Valdez for approximately 10 years. In 1989, she went to Prince William Sound, AK, to help with the Valdez oil spill. She moved to Anchorage and worked for Hope Cottages, a residential facility providing community services to individuals with developmental disabilities. She also worked at the Anchorage School District at Bartlett High School performing many of the same duties as she did at Hope Cottages. She died June 29, 2007, in Anchorage, AK, at age 66 years, two months, and eight days.

Verlee was preceded in death by her parents and her sister, Linda Daoust. She is survived by her brothers and sisters, Ursula Bruck of Portsmouth; James Leinen (Dorothy) of Denison; Orville Leinen (Kathleen) of Panora; Harvey Leinen (Charlotte) of Harlan; Eunice Blum (Gilbert) Loeffler of Panama; Mildred (Jerry) Brus of Denison; and Zita (Gaylen) Smith of Portsmouth; her brother-in-law, Mark Daoust of Atlantic; nieces and nephews and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held July 6, 2007, with Rev. John Dorton officiating at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Portsmouth. Honorary casket bearers were Jeff Leinen, Richard Prosocki, Scott Leinen, and her godson from Russia, Paul. Casket bearers were Brian Daoust, Roger Leinen, David Smith, John Bruck, Roger Blum, and Jerry Brus. Burial was held at St. Mary's Cemetery in Portsmouth. Pauley Jones Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.