

Ruth Mary Rice

October 2, 1929 – June 4, 2005



Funeral liturgy for Ruth Mary Rice, 75, will be conducted at 10 a.m. today (Wednesday, June 8) at Saint Patrick Catholic Church in Wheatland, with Father Jan Santich and Father Alan Hunter as co-celebrants. Interment will be in the Wheatland Cemetery.

She died Saturday, June 4 at the Platte County Memorial Nursing Home in Wheatland.

Ruth was born October 2, 1929, in Ellinwood, Kan., the daughter of Joseph Charles and Dorothea (Miller) Koehler. She graduated from Garnett High School in Garnett, Kan., in 1947 and from the College of Saint Teresa, Department of Nursing in 1950. Ruth married Robert A. "Bob" Rice in Garnett at Holy Angels Catholic Church on August 12, 1950. They lived in Kansas, Wisconsin, Oklahoma, Missouri, New Mexico, California, and Wyoming. Bob worked for AT&T and his last job location was in Wheatland where they remained when he retired. Ruth was a member of Saint Patrick Catholic Church, Catholic Council of Women and was a First Holy Communion teacher for many years. She enjoyed raising her children and later babysitting her grandchildren, knitting, crocheting, woodworking, and traveling with her husband after all the kids were out of the house. Sewing for her family was a big part of Ruth's life, making clothes for her children

and grandchildren; she had worn out six sewing machines and was working on her seventh machine. Ruth especially enjoyed the trip to Rome, Italy, the children gave her and Bob as a 50th wedding anniversary gift.



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Survivors include her husband, Bob, of Wheatland; 10 children, Virginia Anson of Decorah, Iowa, Mike Rice of Wheatland, Robyne Arata of Venice, Fla., Charlene Fahey of Chino Hills, Calif., Vivian Smuin and Tim Rice both of Vancouver, Wash., Celeste Lawrence of Windsor, Colo., Angela Utter of Wheatland, Sean Rice of Broomfield, Colo., and Kevin Rice of Laramie; a brother, Robert Koehler of Brandywine, Texas; 29 grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents; a son, Patrick Rice on Feb. 2, 1985; seven brothers; three sisters; a grandson, Brandon Rice; and one great-grandson, Rustle Rice.

Serving as pallbearers will be Jef Rice, John Rice, Bryce Smuin, Wade Utter, Tim Arata, and Chet Anson. As honorary pallbearer will be Richard Fahey.

Memorials to "Birthright," P.O. Box 98363, Atlanta, GA 30341, would be appreciated by the family.

Gorman Funeral Homes - Platte Chapel of Wheatland is in charge of the arrangements.