

Rose I. (Willey) Garand , 78, formerly of Lyndonville, Vt., died peacefully at the home of her caregiver in St. Johnsbury, Vt., Sunday afternoon, Sept. 9, 2007, with her son and niece by her side. She was born Aug. 12, 1929, in Barton, Vt., the last surviving child of the late Alton and Dorothy (Lurvey) Willey. A graduate of St. Johnsbury Academy Class of 1948, Rose began a career with New England Telephone Company in St. Johnsbury as an operator and was promoted to supervisor. In 1991, she retired from the Burlington office, completing 43 years of dedicated service. Since retirement, Rose had resided in Lyndonville until earlier this year. Attending ceramics classes, bowling, traveling to Hawaii, dance classes and spending time with friends and neighbors brought her much pleasure. Survivors include her son, Phil Garand of St. Johnsbury and his companion, Brenda Wilkins; several nieces and nephews; and many good friends. She was predeceased by her friend and former husband Donald Garand in 2001; her brother Alton Willey; and three sisters, Edith Wells, Rosalie Stevens and Evelyn Goodwin. A funeral Mass will be held Thursday, Sept. 13, at 11 a.m. at St. John the Evangelist Church in St. Johnsbury with the Rev. Patrick Forman celebrant. Friends may call on the family prior to the service at the Sayles Funeral Home Thursday morning from 9:30 to 10:30. Burial in Mount Calvary Cemetery will be held Friday at 2 p.m. Memorial donations made in Rose Garand's memory may be directed to Alzheimer's Association, VT & NH Chapter, 172 N. Main St., Barre, VT 05641-4124.