

**Nancy (Leach) McKee**, widow of Howard R. McKee, of St. Johnsbury and formerly of Littleton, N.H., passed away Monday, March 21, 2005, at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center following complications resulting from lung cancer surgery 21 days ago. She was born in Morrisville on Sept. 7, 1936, one of 10 children born to Benjamin and Barbara (Horner) Leach. She graduated from St. Johnsbury Academy in 1954. After Howard suffered a life-altering stroke, Nancy cared for him for 14 years as best as anyone could. Nancy and Howie lived in Littleton, their last residence being at The Lane House. Prior to Howard's stroke, she had been school secretary at Profile High School. The McKees came back to St. Johnsbury, residing on the corner of Cliff and Harvey streets and later at the Colonial Apts. Howie passed away Aug. 19, 2004. Most recently she lived at the new Passumpsic View Apts. on Railroad Street and was very happy there. Nancy's life were her kids and grandkids. Four children survive her, Timothy McKee of St. Johnsbury (129 Central St. 05819), Linda Stafford and her husband D. Neil of St. Johnsbury (406 Summer St. 05819), Lisa McKee of Hatfield, Mass. (74 Chestnut St. 01038), and Todd McKee and his wife Shannon of Littleton, N.H. (103 Cindy's Dr. 03561); eight grandchildren, Jarrid and Jason McKee, DB, Adam, Elliot and Aaron Stafford, and Jack McKee Heath, and her only granddaughter, born this past June, Lauren McKee; and one great-granddaughter, Emma McQuaid Stafford. An infant son, Jeffrey, predeceased her. She is also survived by four brothers, Kenneth Leach and his wife Connie of South Carolina, Gary Leach and his wife Linda of Idaho, Terry Leach and his wife Norma of St. Johnsbury, and Jerry Leach of Wheelock; two sisters, Clara Stuart of Westminster, and Kim Hensel and her husband Bill of Florida; one sister-in-law, Phyllis Lawson and her husband Tom of Cape Cod, Mass.; and nieces and nephews. Two brothers and one sister predeceased her, Benjamin Jr., David and Carol. Funeral services will be held Friday, March 25, at 2 p.m., at the North Congregational Church with the pastor, the Rev. Jay Sprout, officiating. Visiting hours will be held at the Sayles Funeral Home Thursday, March 24, from 6-8 p.m. Memorial contributions may be directed to "The Santa Fund," P.O. Box 38, St. Johnsbury VT 05819.