



Veronica Burnette

April 20, 2008

Mrs. Veronica Susan "Van" (Tarsa) Burnette, 92, of 51 Valley Street, Adams, died on Sunday afternoon, April 20, 2008, at Sweet Brook Care Center, Williamstown.

She was born in North Adams on August 20, 1915, a daughter of the late John and Louise (Kissel) Tarsa. She attended schools in North Adams including Brayton Elementary and Drury High School. She moved to Adams with her family as a teenager.

Mrs. Burnette worked for several years as an Operator Supervisor for the former New England Telephone Co. in North Adams.

She was a communicant of St. Stanislaus Kostka Church, Adams. She was a member and Past President of Burnette-Bednarz Post 1995 Veterans of Foreign Wars Ladies Auxiliary, Adams, which was named in honor of her late husband, Lt. Col. Sterling S. "Curly" Burnette, whom she married on July 4, 1940. He was killed in action on November 11, 1944 near Han Sur Neid, France.

She was also a member of Adams Post 160 American Legion Ladies Auxiliary, Adams. During and after World War II, Mrs. Burnette was a member of the Grey Ladies and visited many Veterans' hospitals and helped care for the Veterans. She enjoyed taking care of all of her nieces and nephews, and was an avid shopper.

She is survived by 1 Sister - Helen Tarsa of Adams;

1 Brother - Raymond Tarsa of Adams, and several nieces, nephews, grandnieces, grandnephews, great grandnieces, and great grandnephews.

She was predeceased by 3 brothers Walter, Mathew, and former Adams Police Chief John Tarsa, and by 2 sisters Mary Brown and Mary Tarsa who died at the age of 5.

The funeral will be held on Thursday April 24, at 9:00AM from the PACIOREK Funeral Home, 13 Hoosac St., Adams, followed by a Liturgy of Christian Burial at 10:00AM in St. Stanislaus Kostka Church, Adams, with Rev. Daniel J. Boyle, Pastor of the Catholic Parishes of Adams, celebrating.

Burial will follow in Maple Street Cemetery, Adams.

Calling hours are Wednesday from 4:00PM to 7:00PM at the funeral home.

Memorial donations may be made to St. Stanislaus Kostka Church, or the Burnette-Bednarz Post 1995 Veterans of Foreign Wars Ladies Auxiliary through the funeral home.

Tribute Wall



“ To Helen, Raymond and the family of Van,

Im very saddened to hear about Van. She was truly a lovely person. Im glad I got to see her last summer after my mothers funeral. She was still the kind, gentle, classy woman shed been her whole life through.

I can remember Aunt Van from a time when you picked up the phone to an operator asking, Number, please. Id say the number, then hear, Is that you, Nancy?

She and my mother had a very special friendship - both of them loving brothers who went to war, one returning - sadly one not. It must have been an unbearably sad time. Van stayed true to that love throughout the years. She said shed never find or love anyone like Curly.

Vans loyalty and love for her whole family - her brothers, sisters, nieces, nephews - was obvious in everything she said and did. She was devoted to them. I know my mother was sustained by the strength of her friendship with Van -- even over the miles and many, many years. Van called her as long as she was able - and my mother spoke of Van probably just about more than anyone else.

Van was a special person. She will be missed.

*Nancy (Burnette) Furlong
Treasure Island, Florida*

April 23, 2008 at 12:00 AM