



Vernona Sandstrom

April 26, 1909 - April 26, 2006

Vernona Sandstrom

KINGSFORD - Vernona C. Sandstrom, 97, of Newberry, formerly of Kingsford, died Wednesday, April 26, 2006, at Helen Newberry Joy Hospital Annex in Newberry.

Vernona was born June 12, 1908, in Antler, N.D., the daughter of Leonard and Anna (Weller) Sandstrom. She lived with her family in towns including Quinnesec while her father engaged in politics and community life.

Her two sisters, the late Virginia Ramberg and Myrtle Homeier and her parents were active in school and church activities in the area.

Vernona was remembered as a very bright young woman who showed much intellectual promise. However, she developed mental illness very early in life. Eventually, she needed to be hospitalized and she remained in care for the rest of her long life. Her family loved her and continued to visit and insure her welfare to this day. While in Newberry, she lived both in the hospital annex and with some foster families who enjoyed her tutoring their children. This was one the happier times of her life. Her niece remembers a time she and her mother (Vernona's sister) took her to dinner and spent the evening playing cards. Vernona played well and enjoyed herself.

While living in the hospital annex she appointed herself custodian of the reception area which she kept tidy, in later years in her wheelchair. The staff there was so supportive and kind to her especially her caregiver, Vicki.

Her illness prevented her family from taking a larger role in her life. Today, her illness might well have not proved such a barrier to a life well lived.

She leaves seven nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be on Monday from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Erickson-Rochon and Nash Funeral Home

Funeral services will follow at 11 a.m. from the funeral home. Rev. Michael March will officiate.

Burial will be in the Quinnesec Cemetery.

Condolences may be expressed to the family of Vernona Sandstrom online at www.ernashfuneralhomes.com.

The family has entrusted the Erickson-Rochon and Nash Funeral Home of Iron Mountain with the funeral arrangements.