



Rell Yohnka

December 10, 1915 - March 20, 2006

Rell Yohnka -- Clifton Rell Berns Yohnka, 90, of Clifton, formerly of Chebanse, died Monday (March 20, 2006) at the Merkle Knipprath Catholic Home in Clifton, after a short illness. Visitation will be from 4-8 p.m. Wednesday at the Clancy-Gernon Funeral Home in Bourbonnais. A funeral Mass will be celebrated at 11 a.m. Thursday at Sts. Mary and Joseph Catholic Church in Chebanse. Burial will be in Sts. Mary and Joseph Cemetery, Chebanse. Memorials may be made to the Merkle-Knipprath Catholic Home. Mrs. Yohnka retired from Louis Schultz Insurance Agency in Chebanse and was a former high school secretary for Chebanse High School. She was born Dec. 10, 1915, in Chebanse, the daughter of Herman and Florence Allstead Berns. Her husband, William A. Yohnka, whom she married Nov. 26, 1942 at Sts. Mary and Joseph Catholic Church, died Oct. 11, 1994. She was a member of St. Martin of Tours Catholic Church, Kankakee, the Catholic Daughters of Americas and the K of C Auxiliary. Mrs. Yohnka and her sister, Christine "The Berns twins" were known for their beautiful singing voices and sang for many special occasions in the Chebanse area. Surviving are two sons and daughters-in-law, Paul and Linda Yohnka of Las Vegas, Dennis and Terry Yohnka of Joliet; three daughters and sons-in-law, Susanne and James Hildebrand of Kankakee, Delores and Sam Ashmore of Springfield, Teresa and Thomas Anderson of Chicago; her twin sister, Christine Dubuque of Clifton; 14 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren. Deceased are seven brothers, Herman, Anthony, Henry, Joseph, Florentine, Christopher and

Robert Berns; and two sisters, Hermaline Ivy and Florence Price.

Tribute Wall



“ 1 file added to the album Tribute Album



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“ My grandmother was the true foundation of the Yohnka family. ĩ½She used to fake kick grandpa behind the seat and amuse us in other fun ways. ĩ½You knew why you were going to church when you went with grandma Rell. ĩ½A wonderful soul she will be missed by all including my daughters who never met her. This saddens my heart but knowing that she is in heaven and that she is with her family and friends again is comforting.##imported-begin##Jesse Yohnka##imported-end##

March 21, 2006 at 08:21 AM



“ Dennis & Terry,

Our sincere condolences to you & your family.

Love, ĩ½Ed & Bonnie##imported-begin##Ed & Bonnie Matherly##imported-end##

March 21, 2006 at 08:21 AM



“ You are all in my prayers. ĩ½I am sorry for your loss. ĩ½I did see the article a while back on your Mom and her sister. ĩ½##imported-begin##Cindy Elliott Cordes##imported-end##

March 21, 2006 at 08:21 AM



“ I'm so sorry we couldn't make it to Illinois. ĩ½ Aunt Rell was such a sweet lady just like momma. ĩ½ Almost interchangeable. ĩ½ She got such a kick out of the large grapefruit I sent to her from Arizona. ĩ½ She sent such adorable little cards about those silly grapefruit. ĩ½ Funny the things you remember, not the least of which, ĩ½ I chose my confirmation name because of my Aunt Rell. ĩ½ She was a wonderful, sweet and warm lady and will be missed. ĩ½ You have my deepest sympathy.##imported-begin##Julie and Stan Johnson##imported-end##

March 21, 2006 at 08:21 AM



“ I remember Aunt Rell well. ĩ½ The day Donna was married, we children weren't allowed to join the party at our grandparents house, so Rell invited us over to her house, only a few steps away, and fed and entertained us. ĩ½ We probably had a better time there than we would have had at the "grown up" party. ĩ½ She was a good person. ĩ½ Can we say more than that?##imported-begin##Karen and Heinrich Dickhut##imported-end##

March 21, 2006 at 08:21 AM



“ NULL##imported-begin##Karen and Heinrich Dickhut##imported-end##

March 21, 2006 at 08:21 AM



“ I cherish the memories and times I spent with my Grandmother. Although they were few, I have learned much from her and the way she lived her life. I am encouraged to be a loving mother and wife, believe strongly in my faith, and to be happy, but humble. I feel extremely fortunate that my husband and especially my children had the opportunity to meet such a wonderful person. I will keep a special place for her in my heart and in my prayers. I love you Grandma Rell.##imported-begin##Amy Moore##imported-end##

March 21, 2006 at 08:21 AM



“ I extend my sympathy to the family as
I have a terrible cold and will not be able
to attend the service, but I will be praying for her soul and to give the family members strength throughout this
sorrowful time. Thinking of all of you.##imported-begin##Arlene B. (Berns) Devine##imported-end##

March 21, 2006 at 08:21 AM



“ White Flower Basket; sent with deepest sympathy and love##imported-begin##Aaron Wyse##imported-end##

March 21, 2006 at 08:21 AM



“ Susanne and Jim,
I am so sorry about your mom Sue. I read with great interest the story our paper did on her and her twin some time back. I have thought about you and Jim off and on over the years, and wanted to tell you that my thoughts are with you as you go through this time.
Sincerely, Kathie VanTassel
Grazis##imported-begin##Kathie VanTassel Grazis##imported-end##

March 21, 2006 at 08:21 AM