

# Elizabeth J. "Betty" Rice



Rice, Elizabeth J. "Betty" (Nee Anderson) Born to Eternal Life on Sun., July 30, 2017, at the age of 87. Beloved wife of the late Michael L. Sr. Loving mother of Patricia (the late Charles) Vento, Michael Jr. (Joanne), Daniel (Deb), Timothy, Kathleen Nehls and Rick (Jenny). Cherished grandma of 26 grandchildren and 38 great-grandchildren. Devoted sister of Robert (Linda) Anderson. She will be deeply missed by her dear friend and caregiver Cheryl Green. Further survived by many other relatives and friends. Preceded in death by her daughter Mary Anne Denz. Visitation on Saturday, August 5 from 9AM until time of Mass of Christian Burial at 11AM at ST. JAMES CATHOLIC CHURCH; W220 N6588 Town Line Rd., Menomonee Falls. Private inurnment at St. Clare Cemetery in North Lake.




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## Eulogy to Mom Rice

Came home tonight like other nights, let dogs out, sat to make something to eat....but this day is different than others...this day a little piece of my heart went home with my Mama... BUT...a little piece of hers stayed here with me. Sitting here with time to think alone of the day, I thought of Dad and some of the things he instilled in me; love of airplanes and anything that flies, tiling, a good joke, a "tall" story, love of family...and I smiled. Then I thought of Mom thinking of all the things she instilled in me; gentleness, forgiveness, love of all things Christmas, her constant jolliness, but most of all, her unconditional devoted love to her children...and I smiled. I thought of the little crowd that was created because of the love between those 2 people.

Over the past 2 days, I watched my brother's with their wives and children, my sister with her children and grandchildren, my uncle with my aunt...and what I saw was Mom and Dad in each of them and realized that neither will ever leave us completely. The sweetness of Mom in my sister Pat as grandkids vied for her attention....the gentleness of Mom in each of my brothers as they tenderly spoke softly of their love in Mom's ear...the unwavering devotion of a brother to his sister in my Uncle Bob. God gave us all the gift of our Mama. She and Dad helped shape who we all have become. God provided us His camera, our memories, allowing us to pull out pictures and movies we keep stored.

My heart aches with the knowledge I can't pick up a phone and hear my Mamas voice or see the merriment in her twinkling eyes as she chuckles and smiles. But I take solace knowing that God was there to take her hand, embracing her, telling her "well done thy good and faithful servant" as He guided her the rest of the way home...His home. I take solace knowing that she will be with all those she cared for, who went home before her; Grandpa & Grandma Anderson, my Dad, my sister Maryanne, Chuck, David ....and so many others that she will be reunited with. We will all be there one day too.

I am a selfish girl, always have been...I want her here physically. But I know it was time...her time, to be at peace...her time to know that I will be...that WE ...her "babies" , her "chicks" will be ok. It was her time to rest easy and secure in knowing she raised 7 strong, independent children. She truly has been the best mama 7 kids could ever ask for....we have been so truly blessed with her and with each other... She will always be right here among us...we can NEVER lose sight of that. When we see each other...a little piece of her is right there too. 

Kathy Nehls  
August 2017