



## Rita Lenore LaPalm Konen Stetzner

December 30, 1939 - July 27, 2024

Rita Lenore LaPalm was born to Alice Elizabeth Quinton and Joseph Aurthur LaPalm on Saturday, December 30, 1939, in Butte, Montana.

On July 27, 2024 Rita changed her address when she was welcomed through the Gates of Heaven. Rita was a devoted daughter, loving mother, doting grandmother and great grandmother, and a friend to all that crossed her many paths. Her first marriage to John Thomas Konen (Tom) resulted in the blessing of three strong and healthy boys – Tom, Mike and Gary. Later in life she married Bill Stetzner with whom she shared a love for family and faith until his death.

Rita's children were the focus of her life. She devoted unconditional love, time, energy and attention to her active and energetic sons: Tom (Carol) Konen, Mike Konen (Pam), and Gary (Bobbie) Konen. Always on the go in school, sports and outdoor activities, she enjoyed keeping up with the boys, finding time to be involved and always supportive.

And even bigger blessing were her many grandchildren: Jake (Lacey), Zach (Allie), Rebecca (Harrison), Sarah, Logan, Kenzie (Austin), Wyatt, Libby, Clare & Eli {Tom & Carol}, Tessa (Anthony), Casey (Deke), Tyler (Kaliegh), Haley (Dillon) {Mike & Shera}, Hannah, Nolan, Nate, Sam, Emma {Gary & Bobbie}. She cherished her 15 great grandchildren: Brody, Calum, Paisley, Collyns,

Nevaeh, Kira, Taurie, Niko, Emmett, Ember, Opal, Onyx, Ozlo, Dash & Waylon. Her happiness was family and that was the basis that validated her deep faith.

Rita's love for the Lord was fuel for her life and spirit. God was a focal point of her life, and she spent much of her time fervently praying for her loved ones and people around her. In drawing close to God, Rita received much comfort and peace throughout her life. Innately, Rita was the most grace-filled, selfless, and gentle woman and those traits in her only became more evident as she constantly filled her time with her savior, who displays those traits perfectly. As believers, we can rest assured that Rita is at peace and in no pain with God whom she knew so deeply.

Rita had a fierce band of girlfriends who were and always will be with her. Their friendship and annual reunion excursions left a mark of love and commitment on all of them. She leaves behind Edith Merritt, Merce Ames, Bette Lou Freebourn, LaVerne Daicich, Kittie Neifert, Sharon Woody and will soon see Sandy Heimark (deceased).

Rita had numerous nieces and nephews: Kenny Jo, Addrien, Laurie, Denise, Dany, Billy, Steve, Russell, Kim. Rita was preceded in death by parents Art and Alice LaPalm, Russ (Beverly) LaPalm, Kenneth (Joanne) LaPalm, and sister Barbara (Bill) Tarrow. So many to greet her home!

ALL THREE

God, Grant that I live long enough  
To see my handsome sons, all Three  
Achieve manhood, maturity.

Grant that in the years to come

There will be no pain or sorrow  
On their yesterdays or tomorrow.

Lord, each day I give my thanks  
For what you have given me, such joys  
My precious gifts, all three sons, my boys

Rita Konen  
1967

A funeral mass will be celebrated in her honor at St. Ann's Catholic Church in  
Butte and the time and date will be announced.

# Tribute Wall

TS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



---

**Tom Stetzner** - August 14, 2024 at 06:11 PM

DB

“ *Such a gracious and beautiful soul. My life was enriched in so many ways by knowing and working with Rita.*

---

**Donna Burns** - August 03, 2024 at 11:19 AM

TS

“ *An uncommonly beautiful women both inside and out. Along with my father Bill, Rita caused by faith to go deeper. Rita demonstrated the fruits of the Holy Spirit. Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, and self control. she treated me and my family as if they were her own. Folks would confide in her - she was a good listener. When it came to newborns and babies she just couldn't help herself but to hold and love them. Certainly she is enjoying the wonders of heaven. Rest in peace dear Rita.*

*Respectfully,  
Tom Stetzner*

---

**Tom Stetzner** - August 01, 2024 at 08:46 AM

MG

*I share your joy in knowing her and your sadness of loss.  
With love,  
Michele Stetzner Graham*

---

**Michele Stetzner Graham** - August 06, 2024 at 10:59 PM

CH

“ *Rita and I shared a little cabin on Tom and Carol’s home place for about a year and a half. There we were. The odd couple! One of us sweet and congenial. The other brash and loud. But it worked. A treasured memory in my book. Carolyn Hagedorn*

---

**Carolyn Hagedorn** - July 31, 2024 at 06:20 PM

DW

*I am so sorry to hear that Rita has passed away, She married my brother Bill and brought the goodness into his life.  
I truly am sorry for all her family. I did love her dearly but lost contact .  
My prayers and love to all the family.  
Dolores Stetzner Wilks*

---

**Dolores Stetzner Wilks** - August 01, 2024 at 09:33 AM