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OraNell (Nell) DeFrance

OraNell (Nell) DeFrance, 67, born April 8, 1934, went to be with her Lord on Saturday, Feb. 9, 2002. Memorial services will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 13, at the River of Life Christian Center, 800 17th Ave. N., Payette, under the direction of Shaffer-Jensen Memory Chapel. Pastor Arlen Benson and Pastor Glenn Erhardt will officiate. Burial will follow at Rosedale Memorial Gardens, Payette. Her parents, three brothers, and two sisters preceded Nell in death. She is survived by her husband, Jerry; her sons, Steven and his fiancee, Joni Hays, Mark and his wife, Katie; and her daughter, Kim Grosdidier and husband, John Hansen; three sisters, Oma Lomax of Tacoma, Wash., Francille Mylar of Mesa, Colo., Wanda Heaston of Branson, Mo.; and her brother, Dale Rainwater of Riggins; her 11 grandchildren, Marla Hartley, Steven and Jeremy DeFrance, Michael and Amanda Grosdidier, Chad Hansen, Saphrene Meyer, J.C Hansen, Brianna and Skyler DeFrance, Tiffany Lewis, Kyle Lewis, and Cody Hays; her eight great-grandchildren include Alisha, Joey, Jacob, Stevie, Drake, Gaven, Amanda, and Bradley. Nell and Jerry were married on April 18, 1953, in Walteria, Calif. They resided in California with their son Steve and daughter Kim until 1962, when they moved to Payette, Idaho, where their son Mark was born. Nell worked for the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare where she retired from in 1995 after 29 years of dedicated service. Nell's greatest passion in life was her music and her faith in the Lord. Nell began playing the piano at an early age and became the church pianist in Walteria by the age of 17. While a teen-ager, Nell accompanied the Weatherfords as their piano player. Nell's longest and most rewarding time was spent playing for the Payette Assembly of God Church, where she was loved and appreciated. Nell's passion of the piano led her to share with many children, her love for the piano and music. Nell's hobbies included in earlier years, horses, gardening, and recently quilting and her love for the needle and thread. Nell's love for her family was not only shown in her constant love and support, but also in the beautiful quilts that
she distributed unselfishly among sons, daughters, grandchildren, and many foster children in the community. Nell's life touched many and missed few. She will be missed dearly by not only her family and friends, but also all of those who knew her. Nell's dedication to the Lord and her church will never be forgotten. The family would like to thank all of those who brought love and laughter to our mother throughout her life. Memorials may be made to the River of Life Christian Center Building Fund, c/o Shaffer-Jensen Memory Chapel, P.O. Box 730, Payette 83661. Friends may visit today from 3 to 7 p.m. at Shaffer-Jensen Memory Chapel, 112 N. 9th, Payette.