

Rita Gidcumb, 78, of Page, AZ passed away December 17, 2006 in Mesa, AZ. She was born December 31, 1927 in Phoenix, AZ to Lucille (Minwegan) and Charles "Elzar" Laurent. Rita attended Catholic schools throughout her childhood and graduated from St. Mary's in Phoenix. While attending business college she met Charles M. Gidcumb and they married January 11, 1948. Soon children began arriving, and Rita stayed home with them while Charlie worked at Salt River Project. She always stressed the importance of education to her children. The family relocated to Page in 1970 when the Navajo Generating Station was being built. Rita enjoyed many different activities throughout her life including painting, playing the piano, bowling, tennis, hiking, and biking. She volunteered at her children's elementary schools, Page Hospital Auxiliary, and Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church in Page and Queen of Peace Church in Quartzsite, AZ. In her later years Rita enjoyed the camaraderie at the Page Senior Center. Rita was predeceased by her son, Charles M. Gidcumb Jr., and her husband Charlie. Survivors include her daughters: Marie Rider of Quartzsite, AZ; Lucy Clayton (Andy) of St. Simons Island, GA; and Carol Holland (Barney) of El Cajon, CA; her seven grandchildren: Mary Caballer (Perrin), Tim Rider; Bethany, Daniel & Gennie Clayton; Amanda & Joseph Holland; and two great-grandchildren: Perrin & Bianca Caballer. Visitation will be 10 am Friday, December 29, 2006 with funeral following at 11 am at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church in Page. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to American Cancer Society, St. Vincent De Paul or a favorite charity.

