

Lowell Sun - Lowell, Mass.

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Leora Stanford... of Littleton, was nurse, active member in community; 78

LITTLETON — Leora (Thomes) Stanford, 78, a resident of Littleton who was a nurse at a local hospital and was a active member in the community, died yesterday, Feb. 13, at her home, following a battle with cancer.

She was born in Fitchburg, March 3, 1927, daughter of the late Leon Wilbur Thomes of Fitchburg and Myrtle Edna Lyle of Hudson Falls, N.Y. She graduated from Fitchburg High School in 1944 and played the violin and alto horn in the high school orchestra as well as the George Talcott American Legion Band. She later graduated from Leominster School of Nursing in 1947 and belonged to the United States Cadet Nurse Corps. She held a certificate in psychiatric nursing from Danvers State Hospital. She worked at Boston City Hospital, Massachusetts General and Somerville Hospitals, and Burbank Hospital in Fitchburg.

During World War II, Mrs. Stanford did defense work cutting gas mask straps. She canvassed with the Salvation Army and American Red Cross for several years. She was a former member and officer of the Eastern Star, Chapter 76 in Somerville, a 3rd year director of the Federate Women's Club. She also served a tenure as a clerk of the Unitarian Church of Littleton in 1959.

Her hobbies were needlepoint, crewel and embroidery.

She is survived by four children and their spouses, Rodney and Lynn Stanford of Tarpon Springs, Fla., Nancy Norris of Temple, N.H., Ralph and Debbie Stanford of Littleton, and Gardner and Janice Stanford of Chesapeake, Va.; eight grandchildren; three great-grandchildren.

She was also the sister of the late Rodney L. Thomes.

STANFORD — Leora (Thomes), of Littleton, Feb. 13. A Private Family Service will be held at the convenience of the family. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in her memory to the American Cancer Society. Badger Funeral Home, Littleton is in charge of arrangements.