

Eileen Rose Gardner, 61, Kokomo, passed away at 2:10 a.m. Thursday, March 8, 2012, at Howard Regional Health System. Eileen was born Dec. 16, 1950, in Decatur, to Walter F. and Kathleen R. Baker. She was a graduate of Adams Central High School Class of 1969. She went on to get her bachelor's degree in nursing from the IU School of Nursing, graduating in 1973. She was in the U.S. Air Force, serving as an officer, gaining the rank of first lieutenant. She was part of the Kokomo nursing community since 1988, serving most recently as clinical manager of home health care with VNS of Kokomo.



Survivors include two sons, Seth A. Gardner and Josh P. Gardner; her father, Walter F. Baker; a brother, Joseph W. Baker (wife, Nona); four sisters, Mary F. Baker, Ann T. Kershner (husband, Robert), Jean C. Larrabee and Ruth E. Ahlman (husband, Thomas); and two nieces and three nephews.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Kathleen R. Baker.

Visitation will be from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Monday at Ellers Mortuary, Webster Street Chapel, 3400 S. Webster St. There will be a rosary service at 7:30 p.m. at the mortuary. A Mass of Christian Burial will be 10 a.m. Tuesday at St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church, with the Rev. Father Theodore C. Dudzinski celebrating.

Burial will be 2 p.m. in the St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery in Decatur. The cemetery is located just west of Decatur on U.S. 224. There will be military honors provided by the U.S. Air Force at the cemetery.

Contributed by Danny Riley - no source listed