Obituaries

Arleen M. Alvarez

RICHMOND HEIGHTS — Arleen M. Alvarez, 55, died Friday at a nursing home is Westlake.

She was born Sept. 10, 1942, in Warren, a daughter of Joseph H. and Agnes M. Colson of Warren.

Mrs. Alvarez lived in Cleveland for over 30 years.

She worked at the Internal Revenue Service from 1984 until the time of her death, and at Richmond Heights City schools from 1980 to 1984, and at Cleveland City schools from 1966 to 1968.

Mrs. Alvarez had been a volunteer with the United States Peace Corps in Peru from 1964 until 1966, for the local Habitat for Humanity and Catholic Commission of Community Action. She also served as an Equal Employment Opportunity counselor for the Internal Revenue Service.

Survivors include her husband, Ramon F. Alvarez of Richmond Heights; two sons, Ramon F. Alvarez Jr. of Cleveland and Alexander L. Alvarez of Cleveland; a daughter, Jacqueline M. Alvarez of Hartford, Conn.; her parents, who both live in Warren; and seven sisters, Alberta Dillon of New York, Jo Anne Ondrejko of Warren, Bernice Bell of Painseville, Marilyn Cook of Warren, Annette Gilkes of Lorain, Jolene Burton of Cincinnati and Roseanne Sabol of Salem.

Friends may call from 4 to 6 p.m. Sunday at DeJohn-Flynn-Mylott Funeral Home, 4600 Mayfield Road, South Euclid.

There will be a eulogy service at 8:30 p.m. Sunday at the funeral home.

The funeral is 9:30 a.m. Monday at St. Paschal Baylon Church, 5384 Wilson Mills Road, Highland Heights.

Burial is in All Souls Cemetery.

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8-15-98 OBITU

Arleen Alvarez, 55, worked for Internal Revenue Service

By GRANT SEGALL
PLAIN DEALER REPORTER

RICHMOND HEIGHTS — From Peru to E. 9th St., Arleen M. Alvarez kept finding ways to help other people. "When she spoke, things got done," her sister, Bernice Bell, said yesterday.



Alvarez

Mrs. Alvarez spent two years with the Peace Corps in Peru, organizing and running medical facilities. She married a Peruvian, Ramon F. Alvarez, and settled with him in Richmond Heights.

Mrs. Alvarez taught art in local schools and helped taxpayers and colleagues at the Internal Revenue Service. She won many honors, including the IRS' regional equal employment opportunity award.

"You can't enact change by putting a dollar in a church basket," she once told a local newspaper. "You must become friends of poor people."

Mrs. Alvarez died Friday at Corinthian Skilled Nursing Center in Westlake after a four-month bout with cancer. She was 55.

Mrs. Alvarez was born in Warren and received a bachelor's degree in education from Notre Dame College. She ran the art department at Diehl Junior High School in Cleveland, then substituted in the Richmond Heights schools.

She joined the Cleveland IRS office in 1984. There she was a customer service representative, an instructor to her colleagues, the office's equal employment opportunity officer and membership chairwoman of the Association for the Improvement of Minorities and IRS.

Mrs. Alvarez exhibited oil paintings and gave many away to friends. She also sang in the choir of St. John Catholic Cathedral.

She helped organize a local chapter of the Return Volunteer Association for former Peace Corps workers and was named the association's regional volunteer of the year.

She was on the board of the Commission for Catholic Community Action, volunteered for Habitat for Humanity and helped many other civic groups.

She was working toward a master's degree in counseling at Case Western Reserve University.

Mrs. Alvarez is survived by her husband; sons, Ramon F. Jr. and Alexander L., both of Cleveland; daughter, Jacqueline M. of Hartford, Conn.; her parents, Joseph H. and Agnes M. Colson of Warren; and seven sisters.

A funeral service will be at 9:30 a.m. tomorrow at St. Paschal Baylon Catholic Church, 5384 Wilson Mills Rd., Highland Heights.

DeJohn-Flynn-Mylott Funeral Home is handling arrangements.