

# Verna Jensen, 75

Services were held Sunday, September 8, for Verna Annette Jensen, long-time Sitka resident and retired school teacher.

Mrs. Jensen was born December 2, 1910, in San Francisco to Sigurd and Esther (Soiland) Selmer.

Mrs. Jensen's father worked on a survey crew that marked the boundary between Canada and Southeast Alaska.

Mrs. Jensen majored in home economics at the University of Nevada, and after her graduation in 1932 she taught for four years in a rural school that had seven

students. She boarded with a ranching family while she taught school.

She met Louis W. Jensen in Nevada, and the two were married in the Norwegian Lutheran Church of San Francisco June 19, 1937.

The Jensen family came to Alaska in 1949, traveling up the Alaska-Canada highway. She taught at the old town of Tanacross for two years then was transferred to Mt. Edgecumbe in 1951. She taught at Mt. Edgecumbe High School until her retirement in June 1983, when

she was honored for her 36 years as a teacher, 32 years with the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

In 1960 she traveled to 17 BIA schools to collect information for a handbook she co-authored, "School Lunch and Learning." The booklet was designed to help teachers in rural schools with hot lunch programs.

Survivors include her husband, a resident in the Pioneer's Home; a son, John T. Jensen of Anchorage; grandchildren Kay Jensen and Michael Jensen; and brothers Lawrence Selmer of Corte Madera, Calif., and Robert Selmer of San Rafael, Calif.