

# Rita 'Toodie' Demientieff Bennis Dies in Seattle

SEATTLE WASHINGTON — A 23 year old Fairbanks woman whose family was working to fulfill her last wish, a visit to the Shrine of Our Lady at Lourdes, France, has died in a Seattle Hospital.

Rita "Toodie" Demientieff Bennis, who suffered from terminal cancer, died at the Seattle Public Health Hospital March 16. She was told of her illness last July and had been undergoing medical treatment since then, at

Public Health Service hospitals in Anchorage and Seattle.

Various organizations and Mrs. Bennis' family in Anchorage were working to raise the \$1,800 needed for her trip to Lourdes, since her husband,

Steve Bennis, was unable to raise it himself.

Mrs. Bennis was born in Holy Cross. She graduated from Copper Valley High School and had attended the University of Alaska at Fairbanks.