

Rita Kennedy Towers, 57; Managed Apparel Showroom

Rita Kennedy Towers, 57, a former showroom manager at the Apparel Center, died of breast cancer Saturday at Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke's Medical Center.

A resident of the East Lakeview neighborhood and Fontana, Wis., Mrs. Towers was the wife of Kenneth D. Towers, former editor of the Chicago Sun-Times.

Until her illness forced her to retire earlier this year, Mrs. Towers spent about five years as manager of the Barbara Broadhurst showroom in the Apparel Center.

Born in the South Shore neighborhood, she was a graduate of the ~~Loretto Academy of Woodlawn~~. In the 1960s she went to work for the Chicago Council of the Boy Scouts of America and played a key role in designing and implementing its first computer system. Mrs. Towers was director of its data control department until 1976, when she left the council to pursue civic interests.

Until recent years, she was an active member of the Executive Committee of the Chicago Academy for the Arts, which supports education for talented youths at the Chicago Preparatory High School for the Arts, 1010 W. Chicago.

Mrs. Towers was a member of

the Jane Austen Society of North America, a group devoted to studying the writings, life and letters of the author.

Other survivors include her mother, Anne Kennedy, and a sister, Dorothy Kennedy.

Visitation will be from 3 to 9 p.m. Tuesday at Blake-Lamb Funeral Home, 1035 N. Dearborn. Mass will be offered Wednesday at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Roman Catholic Church, 690 W. Belmont, at a time yet to be determined. Burial will be in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Worth.



Rita Kennedy
Towers

Buried: Tues. Nov. 30, 1993