



Velma Jane Souhrada, known as Jane, was born in Winner, S.D. on December 30, 1947. She went to a county school for four years before her deafness was discovered. She attended South Dakota School for the Deaf and graduated there in 1967. Souhrada attended Gallaudet College for two years. She returned to South Dakota and became a housemother at the school for the deaf. She wed Dennis Souhrada in 1971. They have three children, Kevin,

Teresa and Paula. Jane participated in multiple organizations; South Dakota Association of the Deaf, International Catholic Deaf of the Association, Deaf Senior of South Dakota, National Fraternal Society of the Deaf, South Dakota Interpreter Network Coalition and the South Dakota National Association of the Deaf. Souhrada served as President of SDAD for 10 years. She received multiple awards for her contribution to the deaf community.