NEW BEDFORD — Sophie (Souza) Fernandes, 85, of 249 Central Ave. died yesterday after a long illness. She was the widow of Luiz F. Fernandes.

She died at Dartmouth Nursing Home.

She was born in Santa Cruz, Madeira Islands, and lived in New Bedford many years. She was a communicant of Immaculate Conception Church.

Survivors include a daughter, Antoinette Merrick, and a brother, John Souza, both of New Bedford; two sisters, Maria A. Souza of New Bedford and Clementina Sylvia of Davenport, Wash.; and two grandchildren.

Arrangements are by the Schick-Racine Funeral Home, 472 Ashley

Blvd.