



## Dorothy Lillian McCuen Curtis

January 17, 1910 - October 31, 2011

Dorothy Lillian McCuen Curtis, 101 years, formerly of Benton Harbor, died Monday, October 31, 2011, at Borgess Gardens in Kalamazoo.

Dorothy's ashes will be laid to rest with her parents in Keeler Cemetery. Arrangements are by the Dey-Florin Chapel of Florin Funeral Service in St. Joseph. Please share memories or photo at [www.florin.net](http://www.florin.net).

Dorothy was born Jan. 17, 1910, in Dowagiac, to William E. McCuen and Nellie Clark McCuen. She graduated from Benton Harbor High School and Western State Teachers College, now Western Michigan University. Dorothy taught school in Ravenna, where she met John Byron Curtis, a World War I veteran. They were married June 25, 1930, and built a house west of Shelby, near Lake Michigan, during the Great Depression. After John's death in 1941, Dorothy returned to Benton Harbor to raise their four children. She worked at the Draft Board, Office of Price Administration, Benton Harbor Water Department, Benton Harbor/Benton Township Housing Commission, and in later years, as a bookkeeper for the Berrien County Council of Churches and as Treasurer for the First Congregational Church in Benton Harbor.

Dorothy was a proud member of the American Legion Auxiliary #105, Eight and Forty, Benton Harbor High School alumni, and the First Congregational

Church in Benton Harbor, where she was active in several women's groups.

Dorothy "Grandma Jello" will be remembered for her quiet, loving way, her sweet tooth, her love of travel, her passion for biographies of U.S. presidents, and her appreciation of simple laughter.

Dorothy is survived by her daughter, Jo-Anne Hardy of Cassopolis, her sister-in-law Marguerite Jordan of Traverse City, her niece Marlene Kay Curtiss of Traverse City, her 12 grandchildren, and her many great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren.

Besides her husband, Dorothy was preceded in death by her brother, William Clark McCuen, her daughters, Clara Jane Shonk and Joyce Leuty, her son, Byron Glenn Curtis, her grandchildren, Lanelle and Leonard Goodrich, and her nephew, Gene McCuen.

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# Tribute Wall

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“ I am sorry to hear of Dorothy's passing. I remember her fondly as a gentle soul and have wonderful memories of times spent with her at the home of her daughter and son-in-law, Joyce and Bob Leuty. She certainly lived a long life. May all those who grieve her passing be comforted during this time of loss.

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**Sara Carlson** - November 04, 2011 at 07:17 AM

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*Ron and family,  
I was sorry to learn of your Grandmother's passing, but I know she led a full life. We all will miss her dearly.*

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**Bonni Sullivan** - November 10, 2011 at 06:57 PM