



Helen Forrest

September 5, 1924 - March 28, 2011

Helen Forrest, 86, formerly of Benton Harbor, passed away early Monday, March 28, 2011, at the Caretel Inns of Royalton in Royalton Township.

Services will be held at 11:00 A.M. on Saturday, April 2, at the Dey-Florin Chapel of Florin Funeral Service in St. Joseph. The family will receive friends and relatives beginning at 10 AM on Saturday at the Dey-Florin Chapel. Memorials may be made to Lakeland Hospital Auxiliary, Lakeland Hospice or the Alzheimer's Association. Memories or photos may be shared at www.florin.net.

Helen was born September 5, 1924 in Chicago to John and Winifred DeSchaaf. She married Richard Forrest on October 12, 1944 and he preceded her in death on February 8, 2009. Together they celebrated 64 years of marriage. Helen was a deputy clerk at the Berrien County Clerks Office for over 20 years. She was a longtime member the former Peace Temple United Methodist Church in Benton Harbor. Helen also volunteered her time and was involved in the Lakeland/Mercy Ladies Auxiliary, the Soup Kitchen and the Kappa Theta Chi Sorority. She also enjoyed sewing and music. Helen was always there for her family and was the organizer for family activities. But most important Helen was a gracious lady who loved her family.

She is survived by her children, Richard (Shari) Forrest, Jr. of St. Joseph,

Debbie (Larry) Black, of Elkhart, IN, Donna (Rodger) Burgess of Wayland, MI and Diane (Steve) Petlick of St. Joseph; her eleven grandchildren, Rich Forrest, Kim Frank, Jennifer Fecher, Rebecca Coy, Sarah Dowd, Ben Burgess, Lynn Burgess, Brett Williams, Chad Williams, Jeff Petlick and Jake Petlick; and her 7 great grandchildren.

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 2. 10:00 AM - 11:10 AM (ET)

Dey-Florin Chapel of Florin Funeral Service - Closed 2013
2506 Niles Avenue
St. Joseph, MI 49085
(269) 983-1514
staff@florin.net

Service

APR 2. 11:00 AM (ET)

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2506 Niles Avenue
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Tribute Wall

MV

“ *Helen was a wonderful friend and neighbor. I have so many fond memories of our time together on Hoover Ave. My deepest sympathy to her wonderful family.*
Mary Vitantonio

Mary Vitantonio - April 04, 2011 at 11:54 AM

BS

“ *THE SCHADLERS WANTED YOUR FAMILY TO KNOW THAT WE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO SAY OUR GOODBYES TO YOUR WONDERFUL LADY TOMORROW. HOWEVER, OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS ARE WITH YOU DURING THIS VERY DIFFICULT TIME. SADLY OUR PEACE TEMPLE "FAMILY" IS DWINDLING TO BUT A PRECIOUS FEW.*

GODS GRACE BE WITH YOU;

BRUCE & JAN SCHADLER

Bruce & Jan Schadler - April 01, 2011 at 09:39 PM

SH

“ Donna and extended family~~
Please accept my heartfelt sympathy of the loss of your mother, Helen. I worked with Helen at the Berrien County County Clerk's Office from 1974-1980 and have many fond memories of your mom. She was a special lady that I admired. She had a great sense of humor and lots of words of wisdom to share! She also got me involved with Ivelise's Yarn Shop doing needlepoint and rug making. I did have the opportunity to spend a little time with your parents at Caretel when my mom resided there a couple months after her stroke a couple of years ago. You mom looked good and was gracious as ever. I will always remember her. ~~RIP dear Helen~~
Sheri Szabo Hunding



Sheri Szabo Hunding - April 01, 2011 at 06:21 PM

RK

“ My sympathies to the family. Your mother and father were the nicest people and looking back it was a privilege to have had such great neighbors next door when we lived at 277 Hoover Avenue. I remember playing tetherball there between the driveways and your parents at the anniversary party held in the backyard of my parents house down the street a number of years ago. Those days were special and so were your parents. - Roman Kulich

Roman Kulich - April 01, 2011 at 06:07 AM

JB

“ Aunt Helen was the happy, lively sister of my Dad & we had lots of fun whenever we were all together!! Joanne Brotherton

Joanne Brotherton - March 30, 2011 at 03:04 PM