



Louise Hawkins

March 24, 1924 - October 9, 2017

Louise Hawkins passed away on October 9, 2017 at Pine Ridge in Lincoln Township, MI after a long three year battle with dementia that left her unable to speak or to enjoy life. God reached down and picked her up to be with Him, so she could be able to speak her mind, feel creative and be strong once again. Friends and relatives are invited to meet with the family from 4 to 8 PM on Friday, October 13, 2017 at Davison Chapel of Florin Funeral Service, 249 E. Center St., Coloma. There will be no funeral services, cremation will take place. Burial of ashes will be at a later date as a private family memorial. Donations can be made to Wounded Warriors if you wish. Please share memories, messages or photo at www.florin.net

Louise was born on March 20, 1924, to Italian parents, Dominick and Elizabeth Valenti the second oldest of five children. She grew up in the Lawrence and Riverside area and she went to Coloma High School, but had to drop out in the ninth grade, to help out on her family's farm. She went on to get her GED when she was in her forties, which she was very proud of. Louise lived on the family farm and after a hard day's work, she and her sister Mary would enjoy playing the guitar and singing with their siblings and friends, all different types of music, including her favorite, Country-Western.

When WWII came about, Louise went to work to help the war efforts for her country. She worked at Rosback Company in Benton Harbor MI, riveting P-38 wing tips to help the cause for the military. On a trip to Florida with her sister Mary, (to see Mary's husband stationed there), Louise met her husband Enoch (Andy) who also was in the military. She was on one train and he was on another, and with these trains side by side, they managed to communicate and he asked her to write to him. The following year, in December of 1945, they were married and were together for almost 53 years until Andy passed away in 1998. Together, they built a house in Riverside, for which she lived in for over 50 years. After raising her children, she went back to work at Mercy Hospital, prior to it merging with Memorial Hospital, that later become Lakeland Hospital. She retired after 25 years from the physical therapy department.

Louise was a very active person who could never just sit and read. Her interests included gardening, cross-stitch, cooking, ceramic painting, 1000 piece puzzles; she also was a photographer in her younger days, painting with oil paints, to turn black and white portraits

into color ones, she was in the singing group the "Sing-a-lings" from St. Joseph and also was in a formal square dancing group with Andy. Her most favorite thing to do was to be with her children, who she cherished her entire life and taught all of us how to be caring and thoughtful to others and to each other.

Surviving are her four children and spouses, Dan (Diane) Hawkins, Linda (James) Hays, Terry Hawkins & companion, Vonda French, and Mary (Wallace) Oldham; 11 grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; her sister Diann Harris; several brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, as well as many nieces and nephews that she loved dearly. Waiting for Louise, beside her parents and her loving husband Andy, will be her sister, Mary Howard and her brothers, Nathan Valenti and Benedict (Ben) Valenti, waiting to play that guitar with her again. We will miss her greatly, until we meet again.....We Love You Mom

Cemetery Details

Burial of Remains at A Later Date

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT 13. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Davidson Chapel of Florin Funeral Service
249 East Center Street
Coloma, MI 49038
(269) 468-3181
staff@florin.net

Tribute Wall



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Louise Hawkins.*



October 13, 2017 at 09:48 AM

MF

“ *Mike & Sue Single and family purchased the Be My Love Bouquet with Red Roses for the family of Louise Hawkins.*



Mike & Sue Single and family - October 12, 2017 at 07:30 PM



“ *Sweet Tenderness was purchased for the family of Louise Hawkins.*



October 12, 2017 at 03:06 PM

ST

“ *I was raised by my grandmother, who lived next door to Mr & Mrs. Hawkins for many years. I recall Andy telling stories of Al Capone visits to the area when he was a boy, and I remember Mrs. Hawkins fondly as well. My sincere condolences to the family. They were both great people.*

Steve - October 11, 2017 at 06:27 PM

DV

To the family your mother was one of the strongest women I've ever met she come to visit me twice in Texas. The last time she came to visit was in 2014 I believe she was 89 years old. She loved her children very much and would never stop talking about them the whole time she stayed with me. They just don't make them like her anymore . She was so strong on her visit with us anywhere my family went she went to. I remember in Galveston we visited Bishops Palace and she went through the tour with us and it was like six double flights of stairs and I helped her all the way to the top but she wanted to go She wanted to go everywhere when she was here and she did at that age to take a major trip like that just showed me how special she was. I will always cherish the special times I had with her for them two visits to Texas and all the calls we used to make together and every time I come back to Michigan I would come to see her and we would visit all of the family gravesites for flowers together she would go with me. Go with the angels my little Aunt Love you always

Dominick Valenti - October 13, 2017 at 12:07 AM

CA

“ Mom (Louise):

You were the kindest parent, friend, advisor anyone could meet. You brought together a family that will be everlasting!!! You never said no, to anyone (Well maybe Erik sometimes), lollll. If you could help in any way you were right beside who ever needed you. It is true, your kids, Grandchildren and family were the most important to you. Thank you for including me in that wild web..The holidays, the paper throwing after opening gifts, etc...lol...it was fun, loving and I was lucky to be a part of. Say Hi to all up there. I know you will now rest in peace and be with Dad (Andy) and all the rest you can join in. You will be missed by all who had the pleasure of knowing you. Sing, play instruments and enjoy...we Love you...Thank you again for the opportunity of being part of you and your genuine love.

Carrie

Carrie - October 11, 2017 at 11:46 AM