



Dolores Mae VanPelt

October 18, 1930 - October 16, 2015

Dolores "Dee" Mae VanPelt, 84, of Kingsley, passed away on October 16, 2015 at Birchwood Health Center in Traverse City. Mrs. VanPelt was born at home in Kingsley on October 18, 1930 to the late John Frank and Valeria Victoria (Rhode) Schmuckal. Shortly after graduating from St. Mary of Hannah High School, Dee married Rex VanPelt and together they raised two children. She began working at the State Hospital in Traverse City, studying to become a nurse. When she left the hospital she opened her own adult foster care home in Atwood. She cared for as many as 18 residents at one time until she decided to close the home when Rex passed away. Dee worked hard through those years, but always had a smile on her face; she was a fighter and fought for her family and friends many times through the years and eventually fought hard for her own life. In the mornings you could find Dee having coffee with friends. In her spare time she would knit and crochet, enjoy music and go out dancing, or go down to The Rock in Kingsley to play cards or enjoy an event to which she was always early as with anything she attended. Dee was an avid sports fan; especially the Tigers, Nascar, and her Kingsley Stags. When you went to her home you couldn't help but notice her flowers; real and fake she loved them all and had them inside and out. After dressing as a nun one year she decided she would continue to go to other events dressed that way and became affectionately known as Sister Mary to her friends and family. Dee was always very proud of her children and grandchildren. She is survived by her son Charles (Diane Manore) VanPelt; daughter Vicky (Jack) Garey;

grandchildren Rex (Molly), Cody, Katie and Jennifer; her dear sister Bernice Pfau; and special niece Pam (Glen) Roop. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband Rex VanPelt; brothers John Schmuckal Jr. and Joseph Schmuckal; brother in law John Pfau and granddaughter Sarah VanPelt. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11:00 am on Saturday, October 24, 2015 at St. Mary of Hannah Catholic Church in Kingsley. A rosary will be said that morning at 9 am and friends may gather for visiting from 10 am until the time of service. Burial in St. Mary of Hannah Cemetery will immediately follow the service. Memorial contributions may be made in Dee's honor to St. Mary of Hannah or The Rock in Kingsley. Arrangements have been entrusted to Kalkaska Funeral Home and Cremation Services.

Cemetery Details

St. Mary of Hannah Catholic Cemetery

2912 W. M-113
Kingsley, MI 49649

Previous Events

Rosary

OCT **24.** 9:00 AM - 9:30 AM (ET)

St. Mary of Hannah Catholic Church
2912 W. M-113
Kingsley, MI 49649

Final Visitation

OCT **24.** 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Mary of Hannah Catholic Church
2912 W. M-113
Kingsley, MI 49649

Funeral Mass

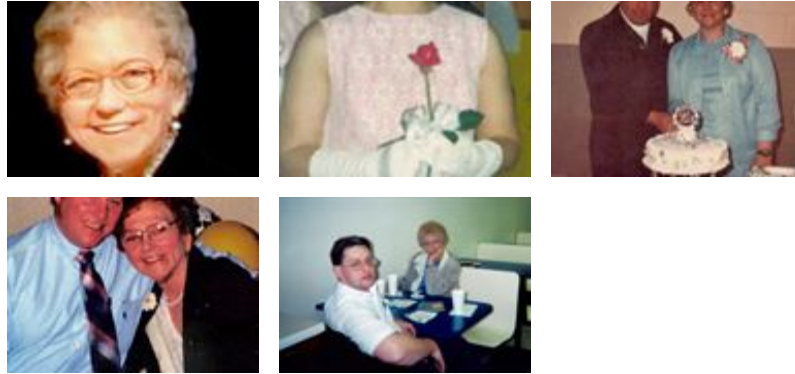
OCT **24.** 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Mary of Hannah Catholic Church
2912 W. M-113
Kingsley, MI 49649

Tribute Wall



“ 63 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Kalkaska Funeral Home - October 23, 2015 at 10:17 AM



“ *Arrive in Style* was purchased for the family of Dolores Mae VanPelt.



October 21, 2015 at 09:13 AM



“ *Dee, I will miss you. May Heaven open its arms and greet you with the outpouring of love you shared while you were here. As I told you daily, I love You. Condolences to Vickie and Your wonderful family.*

Helmi - October 20, 2015 at 04:38 AM



Helmi - thank you so much for being so wonderful to mom. We can not thank you enough! You are such a special person to us!!!!

Vicky Garey - October 20, 2015 at 08:44 AM

AS

“ *Missed by Grandpa and Andrew*



Andrew Schmuckal - October 18, 2015 at 07:52 PM

JA

“ *Delores, you were such a bright light at Birchwood! I recall you telling me when you were on A-Side, "I don't want to go home! I love it here!" And you could sure tell. You will be so missed. xo. Jane, CNA, A-Side*

jane - October 18, 2015 at 01:54 PM



Thank you so much Jane for your care for mom! We truly appreciate everything you all have done for her. You are a special person and she loved each and every one of you.

Vicky Garey - October 20, 2015 at 08:46 AM

VW

“ *To the Family and Friends of Dee,
So sorry to here of Dee's passing. She was a wonderful Lady and I know she will be missed by everyone that new her. She always had a smile and a good joke to tell. Dee will surely liven heaven up. Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this time.
Love
Vicki and Terry Weber*



Vicki and Terry Weber - October 18, 2015 at 01:01 PM

JU

“ *JuLinda lit a candle in memory of Dolores Mae VanPelt*



JuLinda - October 18, 2015 at 07:48 AM

HE

“ *Heather sent a virtual gift in memory of Dolores Mae VanPelt*



Heather - October 17, 2015 at 07:10 PM

HE

“ *Heather lit a candle in memory of Dolores Mae VanPelt*



Heather - October 17, 2015 at 07:09 PM

HE

“ *We are so sorry for your loss. Your family is in our thoughts.
Love,
Heather, Josh, Taylor, and Tim*

Heather - October 17, 2015 at 07:09 PM

ED

So sorry for the loss of such a great person!! We had so much fun together. Halloween is just around the corner & it will remind me of Dee in her Nun getup. Also she won't be eating at the Kingsley dump. So long friend, see you again..Love ya

Eileen Dobson - October 18, 2015 at 09:11 PM