



## Ruth Marie Collins

August 30, 1934 - April 14, 2013

Ruth Marie Collins (nee Darby)  
(August 30, 1934 – April 14, 2013)

Beloved mother, sister, cousin and aunt, Ruth passed away on April 14, 2013 in West Branch, Michigan; she was 78 years young.

Ruth was born in Gaylord, Michigan on August 30, 1934. She grew up on a farm west of Gaylord and attended Gaylord High School. She went on to a career as a bookkeeper for several small businesses in the Midwest. She managed Stuckey restaurants in Michigan and Wisconsin in the 1980s before returning to her roots and a home near Mancelona, Michigan, where she lived for many years. In 2010, Ruth moved to West Branch to be closer to her daughter, with whom she spent much of her remaining time.

Ruth was a unique, loving and warm person whose outgoing personality drew people of all ages to her side throughout her life. She enjoyed travelling, cooking, baking and crafts. She excelled at crochet, designing intricate afghan blankets and hats which she delighted in giving to family and friends or donating to charitable organizations. More than anything else, she enjoyed spending time with those she loved.

Surviving are daughter Dawn Darby; brother Arthur (Sharon) Darby and sister Reatha (Norman) Jackson; sister-in-law Joanne Darby; twenty nephews and nieces and a large extended family.

Ruth was preceded in death by husband Bill Collins; parents George and

Mary Darby; twin brother Richard Darby, brother Ivan Darby and his wife Reda, sister Veda Warner and her husband Clare, sister Thelma Pausits and her husband Joe, sister Leila Darby and brother Robert Darby.

A memorial service will be held at the Free Methodist Church in Mancelona, Michigan (10725 Darragh Rd) at 11 am on Saturday, May 4, with visitation from 10 am until the service begins. Arrangements have been entrusted to Kalkaska Funeral Home, 152 South Cedar St., Kalkaska, MI 49646.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

MAY 4. 11:00 AM (ET)

Free Methodist Church  
10725 Darragh Road  
Mancelona, MI 49659