



Erma Edna Deater

March 19, 1929 - June 29, 2024

Erma Edna Deater, age 95 of Rapid City, went to be with her Lord and Savior on Saturday, June 29, 2024.

Erma was born on March 19, 1929, to the late Merle and Carrie (Sattler) Barber in Helena Township.

She married Harold A. "Bud" Deater on August 20, 1948. When Bud had his stroke, Erma remained strong in her faith, caring for him until the very end. They were married for 63 years at the time of his passing on January 25, 2011.

Erma was a lifelong member of the Rapid City Church of Christ. She was very active in her community teaching Sunday school and being involved in 4-H. You could always find Erma working in her gardens. She loved flowers and growing/canning fruits and vegetables. She was famous for her dill pickles and salsa. She also took pride in sewing and square dancing with Kalkaska Northern Lights. Erma loved to tell stories about her life and enjoyed sharing the word of God.

Erma is survived by her children, JoAnne (Dennis) Childs, Harold (Julie) Deater, Dale (Michael) Gaylord, and Rocklin "Rocky" Deater (Lorena); fourteen grandchildren, several great-grandchildren, and one great-great grandchild.

She was preceded in passing by her siblings, Florence, Louise, Donna, Mac, Glenn, Pearl, Leda, Guy, Leo, and infant siblings Vera and Dawn.

A funeral service will take place on Friday, July 5, 2024, at Wolfe-O'Neill

Funeral Home, at 11:00 a.m. The family will receive friends beginning at 10:00 a.m. at the funeral home until the time of the service.

Interment will follow in Clearwater Township Cemetery.

A special thank you to the staff at the Eden Center Memory Care in Kalkaska for providing exceptional care during her stay there. She loved all of you.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Eden Center Memory Care in Kalkaska or the Rapid City Church of Christ.

Arrangements provided by Wolfe-O'Neill Funeral Home, our family serving yours.

Cemetery Details

Clearwater Twp. Cemetery

Rapid City, MI

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 5. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Wolfe-O'Neill Funeral Home
106 S. Cherry
Kalkaska, MI 49646
(231) 258-5121
<https://www.wolfeoneill.com/>

Service

JUL 5. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Wolfe-O'Neill Funeral Home
106 S. Cherry
Kalkaska, MI 49646
(231) 258-5121
<https://www.wolfeoneill.com/>

Tribute Wall

KM

“ RIP ERMA



Kim micheau - July 01, 2024 at 03:01 PM

MG

“ Our deepest heartfelt condolences.” “We will always remember your Mom with love and fondness.” “We are so sorry to hear about your loss.

Mike & Patty Green - June 30, 2024 at 05:32 PM

GP

I remember when Erma, along w/ the others in the family, used to work @ their gas station. She kept an eye on us kids!! Thank you, kept us on the right track. I have the picture from newspaper that had her 75th graduation picture. As soon as I saw her I knew it was Erma. Still have it. I'm thinking of you, Deaters. Hugs.

Gayle Penrod - July 04, 2024 at 07:35 PM

DG

Thank you Gayle! That childhood influence that both mom and dad gave us definitely kept us on the straight and narrow back in the day. They had a watchful eye on all the town kids. Good times back then!
❤️❤️❤️

dale gaylord - July 08, 2024 at 06:42 AM

LR

Dear Family and Friends of Irma Deater: Your Mom was a very kind, loving, caring person.

We always saw Erma and Bud in the Rapid City Church of Christ until Bud passed. They worked in many ways volunteering in Rapid City.

One memory from our family Henry and Rosemary Udell's. When our brother Tom was born, Bob and David wanted to name him Tom Terrific (a cartoon character on TV), or Bud Deater because he was the Kalkaska County Sheriff in 1960.

Erma taught a lot of us sewing in 4-H. I think we started in the Rapid City School basement. Later I we walked to the Deater's house which was formerly Uncle John and Aunt Dorothy Mariage's home until they moved to Boyne City, MI to run the Boyne City Florist Shop.

Their daughter JoAnne and I shared the same birthday, May 14. JoAnne was born in 1949 and I was born in 1950. We sometimes had birthday parties alternating at the Deater's or the Udell's. I remember sleeping over with JoAnne in the little entrance room of their house, where they had a bunk bed.

Erma taught me everything about sewing. Thanks to her, I had a very pretty 8th grade graduation dress, which was a very complicated dress and fabric for us. But we did it. 😊 She helped me with my prom and graduation dresses. More complicated patterns, fabrics and linings.

Thanks to Erma I made curtains and a bassinet skirt for my son's Nursery, made him some baby clothes, Halloween costumes, and for his 12th birthday "jams" which were popular up to date fabrics in 1987. His friends at his b'day party were very impressed. Also over the years because of Erma, I sewed many birthday and Christmas gifts and other things for the house like duvets, curtains and tablecloths.

Thank you so much to Erma's children for sharing your Mom with us at her home and in the Rapid City Church of Christ as a teacher.

Love and comfort to you all. ❤️❤️❤️❤️

Linda Udell Robertson - July 08, 2024 at 05:00 PM

LR

Thank you Erma Deater's family for sharing her with Rapid City, MI

Linda Udell Robertson - July 08, 2024 at 05:03 PM

LP

“ Miss Erma- you were good to me by letting me spend the night on your couch a few times when I had to bring Dale home from a hard night of dancing at The Torch. I'm eternally grateful for the friendship you & Mr. Deater showed me. I will miss you dearly; Lynn (Ivory) Persons.

Lynn Persons - June 30, 2024 at 04:09 PM

DG

Lol. Lynn thanks for the old memory but I had to bring you to my home to prevent you from driving home to Kalkaska. My parents liked you best of all my friends. Remember going with dad fishing at the dam in Elk Rapids and smelt dipping in the UP? Mom and dad were always welcoming my friends into their home no matter what hour of the night! That is who they were. Hugs, take good care! ❤️

Dale Gaylord - July 01, 2024 at 07:48 AM