



Leona Ruth Gernand

February 7, 1920 - April 19, 2015

Leona Ruth Rice Gernand, 95, of Rossville, IL, passed away at her home at Autumn Fields Adult Community in Hoopeston, at 4:47 P.M. Sunday April 19, 2015. She was born on February 7, 1920, on a farm near Hedrick, IN, to Dale and Lillie (Artis) Shepherd. She married Martin W. Rice on October 27, 1940 in Rossville. He preceded her in death in 1971. She then married George M. Gernand in 1974 in Rossville. He preceded her in death in 1996.

She is survived by two sons, Ray (Marsha) Rice and Dale (May) Rice both of Rossville, IL; a stepson, Mark (Vivian) Gernand of N.Y.; a step-daughter, Norah Berchtold of CA; four grandchildren, Martin (Niki) Rice of Hoopeston, IL, Amber Botkin of Danville, IL, Autumn (Jamison) Kuemmerle of Danville, IL and Kelli (Drew Stephen) Rice of Rossville, IL; four step-grandchildren, Michael and Michelle of Champaign, IL and Barbara and Steven of CA; six great-grandchildren, Rilynn, Arynn, Hayden, Noah, Slayton and Isla; two step-great-grandchildren, Cameron and Samantha; one brother-in-law, Jess Bennett of Rossville, IL, many nieces and nephews and her extended family, Don, Joyce, Jordan and Alexis Hasler of Rossville.

She was preceded in death by her parents, a step-son, David, four brothers, Howard, Wayne, Doyle and Gerald; many brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law and special sisters-in-law, Rebecca Shepherd, Rhuey Bennett and Mary Rhae McBride and many friends. Ruth graduated from Rossville High School in 1939. She was a hard working homemaker and farm wife. She worked alongside her first husband at their business, Rice's Turkey Farm of Rossville, for many years, providing quality turkeys for the holidays. Early in her life, she was an active member of the Rossville United Methodist Church, where she taught Sunday school. She would later become a very involved member of the Rossville First Presbyterian Church. Ruth was devoted to her family and adored spending time with them. She was known for her cooking and loved making Sunday dinners for her family. She would frequent Merita's Family Restaurant in Rossville where she enjoyed talking to many people in the community. Ruth was an avid Illini basketball fan and would never miss a game. She had a large collection of angels that she displayed around her home. Ruth recently began living at Autumn Fields Adult Community in Hoopeston where she made many new friends and looked forward to the daily activities.

Per her wishes, she will be cremated. A graveside service will be held at 11:00 A.M. Friday April 24, 2015 at the Rossville Cemetery in Rossville, IL, with Rev. C. Scott Davis officiating. Burial will follow.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Rossville First Presbyterian Church 126 S. Chicago St. Rossville, IL 60963.

Cemetery

Rossville Cemetery

Rossville

IL, 60963

Events

APR **Graveside Service 11:00AM**

24

Rossville Cemetery

Rossville, IL, US, 60963

Comments



“ " Ron and Karen Bell-Kochell lit a candle in memory of Leona Ruth Gernand."



Karen Kochell - April 30, 2015 at 09:13 PM



“ I met Ruth at Autumn Fields a couple of weeks ago when my Mother-in-Law was about to move in. We shared a noon meal together. She was such a lovely person. She was so excited about her family coming to visit. Then on the day of moving in she met us in the great room and was soooo encouraging and said how much she enjoyed living there. I made the comment to my Mother-in-Law and to Keith, my husband, that she is what I want to be like. Only meeting her a short time she left an impression!!!! What a blessing she was to me. Thinking of her family during their time of loss.
Barb Allen

Barbara I Allen - April 25, 2015 at 10:28 AM



“ Kathy And David Pruitt lit a candle in memory of Leona Ruth Gernand



Kathy and David Pruitt - April 22, 2015 at 07:55 PM



“ Charles A Nd Wendy Gernand lit a candle in memory of Leona Ruth Gernand



Charles a nd Wendy Gernand - April 22, 2015 at 08:37 AM



“ I don't remember her personally but I feel sorry that Rossville has lost another long time resident. I was there last summer and so much has changed. Pretty soon even those that I went to school in Rossville will also be gone. Prayers for the family. I know what it is to lose loved ones. I no longer have grandparents, parents and Uncles and Aunts. Glad I still have some other close to me. Hope the family stays in contact as it hurts not to have loved ones to be with.
Nancy Coss Shank

Nancy Coss Shank - April 21, 2015 at 09:55 PM



“ Ruth was a wonderful person and great neighbor.
She will be very missed. Condolences to her family.
Rodney Tuggle

Rod Tuggle - April 21, 2015 at 07:44 PM



“ The Haslers (Don, Joyce, Jordan & Alexis lit a candle in memory of Leona Ruth Gernand



The Haslers (Don, Joyce, Jordan & Alexis - April 21, 2015 at 01:24 PM



“ Grandma Ruth was a special lady. She was so loved by her family and will be greatly missed.

Carol Kuemmerle - April 21, 2015 at 11:40 AM



“ A lovely lady. She always welcomed my family and me when we visited. She and my mother, Gene Gernand, liked each other very much. I send my best wishes to Ruth's family and friends.

JoAnn Gernand Graven

JoAnn Graven - April 22, 2015 at 12:18 PM



“ My Aunt Buelah was married to George Gernand's cousin, Charlie. Even after both George and Charlie were deceased, Ruth looked after my aunt and took her places she needed to go and brought her dinner on Sunday. My aunt bossed Ruth around like crazy and did not treat her very well. One time when my cousin, Linda and I went to Red Lobster with Ruth and my Aunt and my aunt went to the bathroom Linda asked Ruth why she does so much for Buelah when Buelah treated her so shabbily. The blood tie was gone. Ruth laughed and answered "She will have to answer before God when the time comes and so will I." I think that was a great answer and in my life I can say I have only met a handful of true Christians that live it and Ruth is one of those true Christians. The world has lost a beautiful, kind soul.

James Legg

James Legg - April 24, 2015 at 05:38 AM



“ Thank you everyone who shared wonderful memories and kind words about our mother. Thank you for the lit candles.

Dale Rice - April 25, 2015 at 10:16 AM