



## Anita J. Ruohomaki

September 2, 1931 - May 11, 2023

Anita Joy Ruohomaki, 91, of Iron Mountain, died Thursday, May 11, 2023, at Marshfield Medical Center- Dickinson.

Anita was born September 2, 1931, in Painesville, OH, daughter of the late Jacob and Anna (Wakkila) Malkamaki. She graduated from Harvey High School, class of 1949. Three years later she married Rev. Wilbert Ruohomaki in Fairport Harbor, OH, and together they raised four sons and one daughter. He preceded her in death in 1993. Anita was an active member of First Lutheran Church in Iron Mountain and P.E.O. She enjoyed music and sang in the Community Chorus for over 50 years. In her spare time she enjoyed camping, flowers, baking and gathering collectables. Most of all, she loved spending time at camp in Amasa, with family.

Anita is survived by two sons, Dean and Daryl, both of Iron Mountain; a brother, Robert Malkamaki; four grandchildren, Dayna (Gabe) Lacosse, and Deidra, Derrick and Jeffrey Ruohomaki ; two great-grandchildren, Nora and Clara Lacosse; and several nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by two sons, David and Daniel, a daughter, Danelle Jones; and two brothers, Laurie and Arnold Malkamaki.

Visitation will be held from 9:00 to 11:00 AM on Wednesday, May 17, 2023 at the First Lutheran Church in Iron Mountain. A service will follow at 11:00 AM with Pastor Bryan Laurila officiating. Burial will be at Hematite Township Cemetery in Amasa.

Condolences may be expressed to the family of Anita J. Ruohomaki online at [www.ernashfuneralhomes.com](http://www.ernashfuneralhomes.com).

The family has entrusted the Erickson-Rochon & Nash Funeral Home of Iron Mountain with the arrangements.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY 17. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

First Lutheran Church  
1210 S. Stephenson Ave.  
Iron Mountain, MI 49801

## Service

MAY 17. 11:00 AM (CT)

First Lutheran Church  
1210 S. Stephenson Ave.  
Iron Mountain, MI 49801

# Tribute Wall

KT

“ I was saddened to recently come across the obituary for your mom. I always enjoyed having time to talk to her. I was your babysitter for a couple of years in the early 60s, and, since your mom had to be at your dad's side,for many meetings, I babysat for you "5 Ds" a lot. Your mom was the epitome of a pastor's wife, ever faithful. Such good memories of all of your family! (The only unpleasant one was when the kids and I in our confirmation class came to class unprepared and your dad got very angry.....and I had to go and babysit at your house that night. I was scared to death but your dd never said a word to me!)  
Kathy Johnson Teitelman

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**Kathy Teitelmam** - December 18, 2023 at 06:30 PM

ER

“ To My cousins and family, I am sending our prayers to you all. I will always carry fond memories of her wonderful love and smile. She will be a part of all that we're blessed to know her. Much love and prayers for you all.

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**Eric Ramsey** - May 18, 2023 at 11:26 AM

RW

“ Daryl and Dean, I just learned of your mom's death from Char Anderson. What a spunky lady!! I loved visiting with her at senior days at FLLC and have missed her in recent years. She set a high bar for being a pastor's spouse in bygone days when that was expected! I thank God for Anita's long, faithful life! Grace and peace to you and your families. -- Ruth Warmanen

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**Ruth Warmanen** - May 18, 2023 at 10:47 AM

ER

*To My cousins and family, I am sending our prayers to you all. I will always carry fond memories of her wonderful love and smile. She will be a part of all that we're blessed to know her. Much love and prayers for you all.*


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**Eric Ramsey** - May 18, 2023 at 11:21 AM

“ I wrote an article for the local paper last July 4. It was inspired by Anita. Today I wrote a sequel.

#### *July 4 Parade*

*Just like a Norman Rockwell painting, the whole town turned out for the 4th of July Parade. Folks seemed to know each other, even if they'd never met before.*

*The traditional police cars and fire engines were joined by local businesses and philanthropic organizations. Even the bright  divergent acceptance float finally found its way to this sleepy town traveling out of time.*

*They still say hello Bob and shake your hand on the route. Bright eyed kids ready to receive the candy thrown on the street. Leave the excess sanitation paranoia to some other city, it never worked here anyway.*

*No one else even thought about sitting on the corner where the pastor's wife shows up every year. She's 90 now and as much of a celebrity as everyone else in the parade.*

*The best part was walking along the route, even before the parade turned the corner. A few folk look away as you pass, but a smile and hello bring us all back together. I grew up here, I know these smiles, even if we've never met before.*

#### *The Pastor's Wife*

*The family of the pastor's wife set up her usual chair at the 4th of July parade. She's resting beneath the stones a few miles away, but her smile still radiates between family and friends.*

*This year she's marching in the grand parade with all who have gone before. Our celebration ends with fireworks; hers ends in the arms of those welcoming her home.*

*She's free now to visit our thoughts and dreams. We're free to send her love and gratitude.*

*Thanks Anita for being interested in the details each of us call life.*

*See you soon.*

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**Richard Jouppi Ochoa** - May 17, 2023 at 06:07 PM

DE

*Thank you for the sweet tribute to my Grandma Anita.*

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**Deidra** - May 21, 2023 at 08:54 PM

DL

*Thank you ❤️*

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**Dayna Lacosse** - May 21, 2023 at 09:18 PM

MH

“ *Anita always made me smile. I will miss her dearly. Prayers to Dean and Darell ❤️*

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**Marilyn Hernandez** - May 17, 2023 at 04:12 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Anita J. Ruohomaki.*



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May 16, 2023 at 04:41 PM

AF

“ *All your CRNA friends purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Anita J. Ruohomaki.*



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**All your CRNA friends** - May 16, 2023 at 11:09 AM

JR

“ *Sorry to hear about your mom. She was a very sweet lady. She really enjoyed all the time you all spent with her. Sending you hugs and my deepest sympathy.*

*Jill Romagnoli*

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**Jill Romagnoli** - May 16, 2023 at 09:41 AM

KA

“ *I'm so sorry to hear about Nito's passing. I always remember her Christmas cookie parties and her walking the East Side and all over.*  
*Kirsten Anderson*  
*601 East C Street*

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**Kirsten Anderson** - May 16, 2023 at 07:40 AM

TP

“ *Daryl*  
*Sorry to hear of your Mom's passing. She is in our prayers.*  
*Tom Payant*

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**Tom Payant** - May 15, 2023 at 11:15 PM

DK

“ Dr. and Mrs Jeffrey Kushner purchased the [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) for the family of Anita J. Ruohomaki.

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**Dr. and Mrs Jeffrey Kushner** - May 15, 2023 at 10:53 PM

DK

“ Dr. and Mrs Jeffrey Kushner purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Anita J. Ruohomaki.



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**Dr. and Mrs Jeffrey Kushner** - May 15, 2023 at 10:53 PM

LF

“ Your Mother was such a delightful woman. I was a P.E.O. chapter EN member with Anita for years, and I loved her. I am sorry!  
Laurie Furlow

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**Laurie Furlow** - May 15, 2023 at 07:48 PM

KM

“ I am sorry to hear of Anita's passing. She was a beautiful person. My memory of her is when she and Wilbert lived in Crystal Falls, and I became one of their babysitters. She managed her household and pastoral duties with ease and patience. I loved the whole family. Blessings, Kathleen Norena McCole

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**Kathleen McCole** - May 15, 2023 at 04:01 PM

LM

“ So going to miss Anita and her warm giving heart. She was such a special lady that was always there for a big hug, a cup of tea, and lots of amazing cookies. Much love to her family.

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**Lynn Mande-Rollins** - May 14, 2023 at 08:20 PM

GO

“ Sully was our pastor. Anita was truly his life mate. I will always remember every available spot in their house covered with home made cookies at Christmas time. We cannot replace folks like her, no matter how we may try. Her parents apply named her when they gave her her middle name. Rest in peace, good soul.

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**Gary R Olson** - May 13, 2023 at 08:53 PM

DL

*Thank you for your kind words.*

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**Dayna Lacosse** - May 21, 2023 at 09:17 PM

SU

“ As a child, I loved when Aunt Anita would come to see my grandfather Laurie. As soon as I saw her pull in, I was running across the street to see her!! Such an amazing woman !!

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**Suzanne** - May 13, 2023 at 06:27 PM