



Carol E. Fontana

July 7, 1933 - February 16, 2024

Carol E. Fontana, 90, of Suamico, formerly of Channing, passed away on Friday, February 16, 2024, at Aurora BayCare in Green Bay, WI.

Carol was born July 7, 1933, in Channing, MI, daughter of the late Jack and Rose (Shay) Tobin. She graduated from Channing High School in 1951 and was a lifelong resident of the area. Carol was employed by the United States Postal Service for 46 years and worked in Channing, Sagola, Foster City, Kingsford and Iron Mountain. She retired in March of 1997 as the Postmaster in Channing. She always had raisins on hand at the post office to give to children and was known by many Channing area youth as the “Raisin Lady”. In retirement, Carol stayed very involved in the community and volunteered at the V.A. Medical Center, Dickinson County Healthcare System, U.P. Catholic Social Services, the Masonic Lodge pasty sale and was a greeter at the front desk in the lab at DCHS. She was a member of St. Rose Catholic Church in Channing where she was a greeter, Eucharistic Minister, served on the parish council and was president of the altar guild. Carol was also a member of the Cuculi-Baraga Ladies Auxiliary Post #168 of Channing & Sagola where she served as President & Vice President for 36 years. She was always there to help anyone in need and was caregiver for several of her aunts and uncles for many years.

Carol is survived by her long-time friend and companion, Wayne Theisen; two

daughters, Mary Jane Smith (Paul Vierela) of Tahuya, WA, and Paula Cambray (Bill Fett) of Suamico, WI; seven grandchildren, Drs. Adam and Rachel Cambray, Shannon Warner, Marc Smith, Meredith Carey, Jordan (Kati) Calewarts, Megan Schmitz and Nicholas Schmitz; great-grandchildren, Morena, Caleb, Heidi, Emma, James, Lily, Londyn, River, Ronan and Charlotte; close family member Jeri Lynn Pack; as well as other family members and friends too numerous to mention all by name.

In addition to her parents, Rose and Jack Tobin, Carol was preceded in death by her son, Mark Cambray; two sisters, Mary Alice Cuculi and Joan Probst and two brothers, William "Bill" Tobin and John "Mike" Tobin; and her nephew, Pat Cuculi.

Visitation will be held on Thursday, February 22 from 3:00 to 7:00 pm at the Erickson-Rochon & Nash Funeral Home in Iron Mountain and on Friday, February 23 from 10:00 to 11:00 am at St. Rose Catholic Church in Channing. The funeral mass will follow at 11:00 am on Friday at the church. Fr. Dan Dapaah will offer the Mass of Christian Burial. Burial will be in Channing Cemetery in the spring.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Carmelite Monastery.

Condolences to the family of Carol Fontana may be expressed online at www.ernashfuneralhomes.com

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

Cemetery Details

Channing Cemetery

Byers Rd.
Channing, MI 49815

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB **22**. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Erickson-Rochon and Nash Funeral Home
901 Carpenter Ave.
Iron Mountain, MI 49801

Visitation

FEB **23**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Rose Catholic Church
703 Bell Ave.
Channing, MI 49815

Funeral Mass

FEB **23**. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Rose Catholic Church
703 Bell Ave.
Channing, MI 49815

Tribute Wall

TB

“ We were so sad to hear about your mom, MaryJane & Paula. She was a wonderful person and always so ready to help, always a big part of life events in Channing. I know how much she loved her kids and grandkids. She will be missed. ❤️ Bob and Teri (Feak) Berg

Teri Betg - February 27, 2024 at 02:57 PM

BY

“ BY
Bruce Yoder
13 minutes ago
Carol and I became friends over her many trips to Port Orchard, WA to visit her daughter, Mary Jane. I knew her to be a very special person that shared lunches with me while in town and occasional phone calls and cards throughout the years. I feel privileged to have had a friendship with her, especially reading in her obituary how involved and busy a lady she was. May you rest in eternal peace in the presence of God, Carol. My life is better having known you.

Bruce Yoder - February 22, 2024 at 01:06 AM

DO

“ My oh my.... I am so sad.

Carol was such an important part of my childhood; I just can't put it into words...When Mark and I were little, we were inseparable. If we weren't at my house with my mom making us lunch or a snack, it was at his house and it was Carol feeding us. Like her sister, Mary Alice, Carol had a heart of gold. And, if our moms weren't home, we'd stop halfway at Mary Alice's and she would feed us....and then back to playing outside.

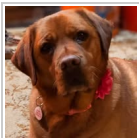
My greatest memories of Carol were when Mark and I would have to be scolded for doing something wrong....and if Carol was doing the scolding, well, you got straightened out in quick fashion... But it never lasted and the chances of her giving us a treat immediately after was extremely good.

It is hard to believe that so many folks are gone from that time....But when we think about the heyday of Channing, Michigan, when the iconic names from our great little town are mentioned, Carol's is right there at or near the top...

She was a one-of-a-kind, wonderful person, wonderful friend, and was always there to support anyone in need... She will certainly be missed.

Dan Olson

Dan Olson - February 21, 2024 at 11:41 AM



“ Carol was my mom's roommate at Freeman's Nursing home. My mom had dementia, and Carol was the best roommate we could have asked for! May she be at peace and best wishes to her family.

Michelle Moland - February 20, 2024 at 09:35 PM

DC

“ Deepest sympathy on the passing of your mom, Mary Jane & Paula. She was a big part of life in Channing growing up and my memories of her are of a strong lady who did a lot for our community. Prayers to your family.

Donna Feak Cline

Donna Cline - February 20, 2024 at 05:30 PM

NK

“ It was an honor to take care of Carol and getting to know Paula. One of the best memories that I'll cherish is when her and I were laughing so hard over nothing at 2:30 a.m. My thoughts and prayers are with Carol's friends and family ❤️

Nicole K - February 20, 2024 at 12:14 PM

PO

“ Pat And Steve Olson lit a candle in memory of Carol E. Fontana



Pat and Steve Olson - February 19, 2024 at 05:49 PM

TO

“ Dear Mary Jane and Paula, we were saddened to hear of your Moms passing. She was such a great friend to so many. Mom and Dad loved her. Channing lost a true angel.

Tim and Barb Olson - February 19, 2024 at 02:39 PM

JS

Mary Jane and Paula. So sorry to hear of your Mom's passing. She was a great person. I remember her well from the many times I spent at your house. She will be very missed.

Jeanne Schultz Smith - February 19, 2024 at 07:35 PM

LC

“ *Leila Canavera lit a candle in memory of Carol E. Fontana*



Leila Canavera - February 19, 2024 at 01:38 PM

LC

“ *Carol was a terrific Volunteer at Dickinson County Healthcare. She would do anything for anyone. She had a very kind heart and a great sense of humor. My condolences to Carols family.*

Leila Canavera - February 19, 2024 at 01:38 PM

BY

Carol and I became friends over her many trips to Port Orchard, WA to visit her daughter, Mary Jane. I knew her to be a very special person that shared lunches with me while in town and occasional phone calls and cards throughout the years. I feel privileged to have had a friendship with her, especially reading in her obituary how involved and busy a lady she was. May you rest in eternal peace in the presence of God, Carol. My life is better having known you.

Bruce Yoder - February 22, 2024 at 12:52 AM

CC

*Another loss of the " Channing Matriarchs". I have so many memories of your Mom, with many visits at the post office and later seeing her in the Hospital Volunteer pink smock. She always had a story to tell. The one I remember best one was of her sleeping in a sweater with the buttons cut off because she kept her bedroom window open! She was so active for so many years. A true treasure.
My condolences in your loss.
Colleen Carey Carlson*

Colleen Carey Carlson - February 26, 2024 at 09:07 PM

BL

Paula, this is late but just wanted to give you our condolences on the passing of your mom. I remember her in the Post Office many years ago. She was always so cheerful! Bill and Barb leeman

Barb Leeman - June 16, 2024 at 06:56 PM