



Caroline Hansen

June 3, 1923 - May 5, 2017

Caroline Hansen, 93, of Iron Mountain, passed away Friday, May 5, 2017, at Evergreen Assisted Living in Kingsford.

She was born June 3, 1923, in Iron Mountain, the youngest child of nine, of the late Domenic and Theresa (Spera) Gasbarro. As the youngest child, Caroline learned to be resourceful in the competitive atmosphere of dealing with her eight siblings. Caroline and her two older sisters, Jennie and Mafalda, were supportive of one another in that setting, forming a close and loving relationship that endured for the rest of their lives. Caroline applied the spirit, resourcefulness and tenacity she learned as a child throughout her life. She displayed those traits by moving, on her own, to Milwaukee, where she worked as a welder in our Nation's World War II effort. Few women of those times would move so far away and display such independence.

Following the war, Caroline married Robert Hansen on December 28, 1946. Her husband served in World War II for the United States Navy, in the Pacific Theatre. Together, they spent much of their life in the same house where Caroline was born, on Milwaukee Court, in Iron Mountain. She is survived by their one daughter, Joann Carol Moran, wife of William B. Moran. Caroline is also survived by two grandchildren, Kristen Johnson (Michael Hack) of Port Washington, WI and Matthew McCollow of Cape Cod, MA, and by one great-granddaughter, Megan, also of Port Washington.

Caroline was a life-long, devoted and contributing member of the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church. She was also a member of Daughters of

Isabella, and the Paisano Club. In addition to being independent, she was known by all as a hard-working woman, who practiced her Christianity in her life every day. A woman with a big heart, giving and caring for others were her defining characteristics. If one needed assistance, Caroline could be counted on to provide it.

Not a woman of leisure, Caroline worked even in her 80's. In the early years, upon returning from Milwaukee to Iron Mountain, she worked as a waitress at her sister Jennie's bar/restaurant, "Gene's," and her sister Muff's bar/restaurant, "Irish's," where she was always a favorite of the customers. Given her sunny and friendly attitude, it is not surprising that the customers loved her. Industrious and tireless, along the way she also developed a talent for interior painting and wallpapering, employing those skills and housekeeping expertise for family and friends.

Family was always important to Caroline. She spent a great deal of time with her grandchildren and great-grandchild caring for and entertaining them with stories and games. The board game "Trouble" became a favorite of all. She always cooked their favorites and took them everywhere. Caroline enjoyed spending time with all children; even nieces, nephews, and their children knew "Auntie Carrie."

Caroline loved socializing. Whether it was breakfast or dinner at her house or going to a local restaurant, she enjoyed friends and good food. Throughout her life she helped others make all types of Italian food. If you wanted a great Italian feast, Caroline was the expert in that culinary field. She loved playing cards, going to the Casino, and most of all Bingo. It is reputed that, in all her years of playing Bingo, she actually came out ahead. If true, she would be the first person to have accomplished that feat.

Caroline's family and friends will always remember her as a caring, loving and fun-loving person who was always there if there was someone in need. It never mattered when, where or how much was needed; Caroline was always there to do whatever was necessary.

Caroline was preceded in death by her husband, Robert, her two sisters,

Mafalda Daley and Jennie Melelli, and her six brothers: Alfred, Fiore, Armand, Sam, David and Joseph Gasbarro.

A celebration of Caroline's life will be held at the Immaculate Conception Church in Iron Mountain at 10:00 am on Wednesday, May 17. Burial will be in Cemetery Park in Iron Mountain.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Caroline's name to Habitat for Humanity Menominee River, 113 South Milwaukee Avenue, Kingsford, MI 49802, hfh@habitatmr.com.

Condolences may be expressed to the family of Caroline Hansen online at www.ernashfuneralhomes.com

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

Cemetery Details

Cemetery Park

Cedar Ave
Iron Mountain, MI 49801

Previous Events

Funeral Mass

MAY 17. 10:00 AM (CT)

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church
500 Blaine St.
Iron Mountain, MI 49801

Tribute Wall

DR

“ *I can never look at coffee can without thinking about Carrie's biscotti. I never came home from college without a can from Carrie at the house.* ”

Danny Rodman - May 11, 2017 at 12:48 PM