



Easter Rampanelli

July 31, 1917 - July 31, 2008

IRON MOUNTAIN - Easter Anna Rampanelli, 91, formerly of 311 E. Smith St. in Iron Mountain, passed away Thursday, July 31, 2008, at Manor Care Health Services in Kingsford.

Easter was born April 8, 1917, in Crystal Falls, daughter of the late Albert and Mary (Steddick) Drake. She graduated from Crystal Falls High School.

Easter married Mario Rampanelli and he preceded her in death in 1990. Easter was a longtime member of Immaculate Conception Catholic Church. For the last 17 years, Easter worked at the St. Vincent de Paul store in Iron Mountain.

She is survived by a daughter, Suzanne (Dr. John) Bird of Northbrook, Ill.; two grandchildren, John Jr. (Deborah) Bird of Glenview, Ill. and Brian (Jean) Bird of Atlanta, Ga.; and six great-grandchildren, John III, Jacob, Emma, Brian Jr., Anna "Josie" and Roddey. Here in Iron Mountain she is survived by her loving niece, Carol Sue Drake.

Easter was preceded in death by two brothers, Joseph and Francis Drake and a sister, Eleanor West.

A memorial Mass will be held Friday at 12:30 p.m. at Immaculate Conception

Catholic Church in Iron Mountain. Msgr. James Kaczmarek will offer the Mass of the Christian burial.

Burial will be in Cemetery Park.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to St. Vincent de Paul of Iron Mountain or to Iron Mountain High School Music Department to purchase new chairs for the auditorium.

Condolences may be expressed to the family of Easter Rampanelli online at www.ernashfuneralhomes.com.

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

Tribute Wall

PD

“ I am not quite as old as Easter but we did have memories we shared as being Mansfielders. Whenever I stopped in at St. Vinnies and Easter was working we would start on about family and friends in Mansfield. Now, my daughter and her family are living on the Drake's homestead. When they first moved in, I could swear I smelled Grandpa's pipe even though it had been many years since he had been gone.

My sympathy to all the Family & Friends of Easter.

Pat Zavada Dishaw - August 08, 2008 at 12:00 AM

CH

“ Sincere sympathy to Auntie Easter's family. I never knew Auntie Easter, but have heard such nice things about her from her precious niece and my dear friend Karen, that I share in your sadness in losing such a good family member. I am sure that all the happy memories will live on forever.....till you meet again.

Chris - August 08, 2008 at 12:00 AM

BS

“ I never send e-mail correspondence, However Easter was a true down to earth person with remarkable feelings towards helping others. The Drake family lost their last surviving matriarch.I think of all the past times I was fortunate enough to be with the family in Mansfield Township during holidays and good old fashion celebrations. The Drakes are all together now and loving celebrations in eternity.

Blair Semke

Blair Semke - August 07, 2008 at 12:00 AM

BS

“ There is a story I would like to share with the family. When I was first married to Karen, we spent our weekends in Mansfield while attending NMU. I arrived at the farm at 3:00AM from celebrating in Crystal Falls and the next day Karen was upset. The Drakes were having a get together the following day and Munge told me at the table not to worry because boys will be boys. Easter looked at me and said " The best advice I can give you is do not pull this stunt again or you will find yourself living in the doghouse outside". Karen and I have been together for 32 years and I truly believe we have always had Easter's blessing.
Blair Semke

Blair Semke - August 07, 2008 at 12:00 AM

JC

“ You'll surely be missed, Auntie, and in my memories forever. I'll especially remember the many family get-togethers and the laughter we all enjoyed at the Drake farm in Mansfield, as well as your warmth and thoughtfulness. Just as you signed your letters and birthday cards with "love always," I, too, will remember and love you always. Jo-Ann

Jo-Ann Drake Cartwright - August 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ Dear Susie and Family

My deepest sympathy to you all. Easter was such a sweet, smiling lady all the time. She was one of my favorite customers when I worked at Oliva's while I was in high school. We will miss her wonderful presence.

Dahly (Corsi) Bosley

Dahly Corsi Bosley - August 04, 2008 at 12:00 AM

KK

“ *God Speed Auntie Easter. Thank you for the love, the memories, the lessons on life and our laughter. You taught me that when life hands you lemons, you make lemonade. Special thanks for being my aunt/godmother and not only Kristen's great aunt but her surrogate grandmother for 21 yrs. It could be a cliché, but in your case solemn truth: when God made you, he broke the mold. You will live on forever in our hearts here on earth and where you are: hugs all around and tell Uncle Munge "Hi" for us. With gratefulness for the blessing that was our Auntie Easter.*

Karen and Kristen - August 04, 2008 at 12:00 AM

AD

“ *Deepest sympathy to your entire family. It was a honor to met Easter. She was a very loving and caring person. God's blessing to all of you.
Amanda (nurse at manorcare)*

Amanda Dionne - August 04, 2008 at 12:00 AM