



Elsie Swanson

September 2, 1914 - September 2, 2010

Elsie M. Swanson, 96, of Kingsford, died Thursday, Sept. 2, 2010, at the Freeman Nursing Home and Rehabilitation Center in Kingsford.

She was born June 11, 1914, in Fern, Wis., daughter of the late Simon and Christine (Jacobsen) Jensen. Elsie's early childhood was spent in Florence, Wis. The family later moved to South Dakota and then back to Kingsford, where she remained for the rest of her life. She was one of the early pioneers in Girl Scouting in Dickinson County, which fostered her love of nature.

Elsie married Kenneth O. "K.O." Swanson on Sept. 28, 1934. Kenneth was the first magistrate of the Dickinson County court system. He also owned and operated K.O. Swanson's service station in East Kingsford for 35 years. He preceded her in death in 1973.

Elsie spent a good part of her life as a homemaker while remaining active in several local ladies' circles. She was an active member of the First Presbyterian Church and the Order of the Eastern Star. She was also one of the happy pasty making crew that served the Masonic Lodge.

Being a true Yooper, some of Elsie's happiest days were spent at the family camp in Channing, where she enjoyed hunting and fishing with her husband and family.

One of Elsie's true joys in life came in her early 40s when she decided to go into nursing. She attended classes at Northern Michigan University and went on to have a fulfilling career in the field of nursing, where she truly enjoyed caring for her patients. The majority of her time was spent at Dickinson County Hospital in Iron Mountain.

She is survived by one son, Gary (Rosewitha) Swanson of Thomasville, Ga.; six grandchildren, Lisa (Neil) Clemens, Tina (Joe) Sapere, Ted (Mary Alveran) Swanson Jr., Sarita (Korrie) VanMaanen, Fabia (Jay) Bracklein, and Adora Thayer, 13 great-grandchildren; several great-great grandchildren; one sister, Betty Caouette of Wheeling, Ill.; sisters-in-law, Ruth Jensen, Ruth Swanson, and Babe Swanson, all of Kingsford, as well as many relatives and friends, including two "special sons," Leroy and Doug St. Onge.

Besides her parents and husband, Elsie was preceded in death by her son, Ted Swanson and her brother, Ernie Jensen.

Friends may call on Wednesday from 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Erickson-Rochon & Nash Funeral Home.

Funeral services will be Wednesday at 5 p.m. at the funeral home. Rev. David Anderson will officiate.

Burial will be in the Quinnesec Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, a memorial will be established in her memory.

Condolences may be expressed to the family of Elsie M. Swanson online at www.ernashfuneralhomes.com.

Special thanks to the loving caregivers provided by UPCAP, as well as all the staff at the Freeman's Nursing and Rehabilitation Center who took such good care of her. Elsie always said, "I FEEL SO BLESSED."

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

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 8. 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM (CT)

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

Funeral Service

SEP 8. 5:00 PM (CT)

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

Tribute Wall

TN

“ Dear Gary. God Bless You and your family. I have fond memories of your mother and father as a child growing up. K. O. and your Mother sure treated all 12 kids with kindness, good humor, and great story telling adventures. John and Arlaine really appreciated both your Mom and Dad , I remember pulling into the gas station K.O. would first open the pop machine and say help yourself, to all 12 kids. Then K.O. would bring us over to the fire station and show us the fire truck and crank on the siren. Gary remember your Mother Spirit lives on with you. May God Bless Her.

Tim Mc Donough - Green Bay, WI - Nephew - September 08, 2010 at 12:00 AM

AN

“ Dear Gary;

I am so sorry I missed your mother's services. I had a doctor's appointment out of town and did not get home until it was too late.

Both of your parents are such a big part of my childhood memories. Playing in their yard or in KO's woods. With all the trees the hours of fun and adventure was endless. Your mom and dad were never too busy to sit in the front yard and talk to us or invite us in for a treat. There was always something exciting in the house. Like the doll your dad had in a bed, claiming he was an alien from the moon. Bringing the Wall Street Journal over to the house was always an exciting part of our day.

Hanging out at your dad's station was always fun and looking through the junk pile behind the station always found a treasure.

As a child I was afraid of dogs. Tinker was the first dog I ever trusted. I have a cherished picture of my grandfather and me sitting in your parent's front yard with Tinker.

Your mother was a wonderful person who made my childhood even more special.

Anne Pucci

Anne Pucci - Niagara, WI - former neighbor - September 08, 2010 at 12:00 AM

KF

“ Dear Gary,
Just want you to know my thoughts are with you. Your mom was a great person, intelligent, and thoughtful. I know how much you and Ted meant to her and how much you helped over the years. She was extremely proud of you. I know how hard the past few years were on her, she endured many losses. Thank you for allowing me into your lives.

Sincerely,
Kristine Arseneau

kristine arseneau - iron mountain , MI - friend/upcap - September 07, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JN

“ Hi Gary and family. I just heard about your Mom passing. I check the Iron Mountain news every day. Do you remember me? We all played together as KIDS. Long time ago. Your parents were wonderful people. We all have fond Memories of them. Take care.
Joanne Gussert

Joanne Gussert-Schreiner - West Allis , WI - Neighbor - September 07, 2010 at 12:00 AM