



Elva Martin

June 24, 1915 - June 24, 2009

IRON MOUNTAIN - Elva J. Martin, 94, of Iron Mountain, died Wednesday, June 24, 2009, at ManorCare Health Services in Kingsford.

She was born on June 21, 1915, in Alexandria, Minn., the daughter of the late Edward and Bessie (Clark) Cassell.

Elva lived in Merriman for many years, moving to Iron Mountain in 1983. She worked at Freeman's Nursing Home for many years before assisting homebound people. Elva was a past member of the Merriman's Women's Club. She was a very active member of the Iron Mountain Seventh Day Adventist Church, where she devoted much of her time. She belonged to the Dorcas Society and taught Sabbath School at the church.

She enjoyed doing crossword puzzles and crocheting. She also liked playing board games and was extremely good at Scrabble. Throughout the years, Elva raised dogs and chickens and was a gardener, growing vegetables, fruit, and beautiful flowers.

She married Melvin George Martin on Jan. 31, 1934, in Iron Mountain. He preceded her in death on May 27, 1962.

Elva is survived by two sons, Charles Martin of Traverse City, Mich. and

Melvin (Dorothy) Martin Jr. of Quinnesec; one daughter, Bonnie (Richard) Grady of Pahrump, Nev.; one stepbrother, Bill (Kay) Rhodes of Burnham, Ill.; 14 grandchildren, 23 great-grandchildren, nine great great-grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews, including a special niece, Joanne "Mary" Lauersdorf.

She was preceded in death by two sons, John and Merlin Martin; one sister, Coral Marchand; and three stepsisters, Alice Mohawk, Gloria Bartholomew, and Marion Calo.

Visitation will be Friday from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at Tondin-Ross & Freeman Funeral Home.

Funeral services will Friday at 11 a.m. at the funeral home. Rev. Jesse Nephew will officiate.

Burial will be in the Quinnesec Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made to the Seventh Day Adventist Church or to the Arthritis Foundation.

Condolences to the family of Elva Martin can be expressed online at www.tondinfuneralhome.com

The family has entrusted the Tondin-Ross & Freeman Funeral Home with the arrangements.