



## Frances Gussert

September 11, 1932 - October 19, 2011

Frances Marie Gussert of Iron Mountain, returned to her Lord and Savior after a short battle with cancer. She passed peacefully on Wednesday, Oct. 19, 2011, in Phoenix, Ariz., surrounded by her family.

She was born on Sept. 11, 1932, in Kingsford, daughter of the late Norman Sr. and Catherine (Klein) Mainville. She graduated from Kingsford High School in 1950.

Fran married Robert Gussert on Sept. 6, 1952, and he preceded her in death on April 2, 1981. She was a lifelong resident of the Upper Peninsula, residing with her husband, a Department of Natural Resources conservation officer, in Newberry, Grand Marais, Sault Ste. Marie, Houghton and Crystal Falls. She made lifelong friends wherever she went. She moved back to Kingsford/Iron Mountain to be near her brothers and sisters after her children were grown.

She was a member of St. Mary Queen of Peace Catholic Church in Kingsford, and while wintering in Arizona she attended St. Clement of Rome in Sun City. She had a beautiful voice and was a member of both church choirs and the Dickinson County Community Chorus.

Fran enjoyed life, traveling to Australia on a memorable adventure with her sisters and brother Norman, and to Europe with her sister and best friend,

Lois, where they visited her son, Scott who was stationed with the Army in Germany. She was a talented artist; her grandchildren being her favorite subjects.

While wintering in Sun City, she and her sister, Lois, volunteered at the American Legion and were members of the Auxiliary. She enjoyed golf, playing several times a week, and was particularly proud of having three holes-in-one - more than all of her sons combined. She was a member of Oak Crest Golf Course and Sun City Recreational Golf Courses. Fran also enjoyed playing cards, solving word puzzles and having a good laugh.

Fran is survived by her daughter, Patricia (Fred) Schrock of Peoria, Ariz.; sons, Thomas (Corinn) Gussert of Valdez, Alaska, Daniel (Renee') Gussert of Cadillac, Mich., Robert Gussert of Crystal Falls, Scott (Kathy) Gussert of Crystal Falls; sister, Lois Rice of Kingsford; brother, Bernard Mainville of Kingsford; and grandchildren, Katie, Bobby, Peter, Nicole, Adam, James, Andrew, Sarah, Emily, Nathan, Joe, Lexi, Sam and Mikey; and great-grandson, Reade.

Fran was preceded in death by brothers, Garland (Mary), Anthony (known as "Sonny"), and Norman Mainville; sisters, Carmen Valentine and Earldine Johnson; and her precious grandson, Jeffrey.

A celebration of Fran's life will be held on Saturday, Nov. 19 with a 11 a.m. funeral Mass at St. Mary Queen of Peace Catholic Church in Kingsford.

A luncheon for family and friends will follow.

Burial will take place in the Quinnesec Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the Frances

Gussert Memorial Fund at the First National Bank and Trust of Iron Mountain.

Condolences may be expressed to the family of Frances Gussert online at [ernashfuneralhomes.com](http://ernashfuneralhomes.com).

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

# Previous Events

## Funeral Mass

NOV **19**. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Mary Queen of Peace Catholic Church  
432 Edsel  
Kingsford, MI 49802

# Tribute Wall

CR

“ *My deepest sympathy to all of your family. Fran was always so friendly and I enjoyed our talks at Sam's birthdays and at golf outings that we both attended. I am sure you will have wonderful memories of her. Such a wonderful person.*

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**Carolyn Dunlap - Iron River** - November 18, 2011 at 12:00 AM

CM

“ *Gussert Family,*

*I had the privledge and honor of golfing with Fran several times at Norway, what a kind, gentle lady, how blessed you all are for having her in your lives. Fran will forever be a part of all who knew her, my deepest condolences, God Bless*

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**Cherie Winters - Kingsford, MI** - November 17, 2011 at 12:00 AM

AF

“ *Scott and Bob,*

*My condolences on your loss. Our prayers will be for you and your family.*

*Tony and Simone*

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**Anthony Petitjean - Monroe, WI - Friend of family** - November 16, 2011 at 12:00 AM

OF

“ *My sympathy to all of Fran's family. She was a very kind and gracious lady and golfer...one of the nicer ones at Oak Crest, Norway. She will be missed. by all who loved and knew her as a friend.*

*Our prayers are with you.*

*Orice Walters*

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**Orice Walters - Iron Mountain, MI - Friend** - November 06, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DF

“ *Bobbo, truely very sorry to hear about Mom. Franno was, is and always will be one wonderful woman. pass on my/our most heartfelt sympathy to the whole fam. love you bro.*

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**Dean Arcand - crystal falls - Family friend** - November 04, 2011 at 12:00 AM

LF

“ I worked for your father - Bob- as a Conservation Officer in what was then called District Two. In those days, the officer's spouse was considered to be an equal partner in the job. Your mother and father were wonderful examples of a loving couple working a special calling together. My wife(Pat) and I always enjoyed having an opportunity to visit with both of them both at their home in Crystal Falls and on picnics and other events. Your mother was always a wonderful host of impromptu coffee sessions in her home. Your Dad believed in working hard and playing even harder. Fran took the young officer's wives under her wing and smoothed their transition into a DNR career. I'm sorry that I lost track of your Mom after your father passed. I probably only spoke to her two or three times since then, but I thought of both of them often throughout my career and I will always be greatfull for the welcoming manner they treated all their officers. Pat and I always tried to model ourselves after them in the manner they treated their officers. May God Bless all of your family and may you celebrate her passing by giving the love she gave you to others. Your mother and grandmother was a wonderful person who made a difference in the lives of others. thanks for sharing both of them with us.

*Bruce and Patricia Gustafson*

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**Lt. Bruce Gustafson, DNR(Retired) - Naubinway, MI - Family Friend - November 03, 2011 at 12:00 AM**

KM

“ Dear Gussert Family,

*I am so sorry to hear about your mothers passing. I have many great Houghton and Crystal Falls memories.*

*You are in my thoughts and prayers. I think of her often, especially when I attend Guardian Angel Church in Crystal Falls.*

*Kim*

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**Kim Erickson Maki - Houghton, MI** - November 02, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DF

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with the Gussert/Mainville Families during this time of sorrow. The obituary is a wonderful tribute.

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**David Denman and Family - Cadillac, MI - Friend of the Family** - November 02, 2011 at 12:00 AM

LN

“ Hello Dear Cousins,

*My sisters (Annie, and Patsy) and I are so sorry to hear about your mom. Your in our thoughts and prayers..*

*Much Love,*

*Loie (Norms daughter)*

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**Lois mainville Hughes - Gradn Junction, CO - Niece** - November 02, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ *Mr and Mrs Gussert,*

*I am sorry to hear of the loss of your mother/mother-in-law. My thoughts and prayers are with you and the family through this difficult time. May you all truly feel God's loving arms and around your entire time.*

*John "Sandman" Sandlin*

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**John Sandlin - Corunna, MI - Former Student** - November 02, 2011 at 12:00 AM

RR

“ *So sorry for your loss. I'll keep you and your family in prayer. May God comfort you and give you peace in this time of loss. Find comfort in knowing that she was a believer and she is with her heavenly Father!*

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**Renee Mayle - Cadillac, MI - friend of Renee** - November 02, 2011 at 12:00 AM

PN

“ *I will miss your everpresent smile and wonderful disposition. Always smiling and laughing at a joke...even if she didn't quite understand the punchline. I will miss you more than you know. Love, Peter.*

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**Peter Gussert - Chicago, IL - Nephew** - October 31, 2011 at 12:00 AM

FF

“ *Dear Gussert family,  
Our deepest sympathy during this time of the great loss of your  
Mother and Grand Mother. We have fond memories of not only your  
Mom and Dad, but you kids as well when you lived in Crystal Falls.  
May God Grant you all the needed strength to help you through this  
time.  
Our deepest sympathy, Frank and Lucia Pairolero, ret. C.O.*

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**Frank and Lucia Pairolero - Marenisco, MI - friends** - October 26, 2011 at 12:00 AM

TF

“ *To Frans Family,  
  
Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this time.  
  
Terry and Chari Johnson  
Laurium, MI  
Conservation Officer Ret.*

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**Terry Johnson - Laurium, MI - Friend** - October 26, 2011 at 12:00 AM