



## Helen Clarke

September 4, 1905 - September 4, 2004

"Helen Clarke"

IRON MOUNTAIN - Helen K. Clarke, 99, formerly of 501 West "B" St. Iron Mountain, passed away peacefully in her sleep on Saturday, September 4, 2004 at Freeman's Convalescent Center in Kingsford.

Helen was born June 21, 1905 in Fergus Falls, MN daughter of the late Charles and Katherine (Downey) Gates. She graduated from Fergus Falls High School in 1924. Helen went on to attend the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks and transferred to the National School of Education in Evanston, IL where she graduated in 1928. She then came to Iron Mountain and taught kindergarten in the public schools and later became the first lay teacher at St. Mary and St. Joseph's Catholic School where she worked until retiring in 1970. Helen married W. Frederick Clarke on October 7, 1933. He preceded her in death on March 23, 1969. She was a member of St. Mary and St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Pine Grove Country Club and was a past member of several clubs and organizations. Helen was a devoted mother, grandmother, teacher and friend.

She is survived by two sons, William F. (Eve) Clarke II of Colorado and C. Thomas (Patricia) Clarke of Iron Mountain; daughter-in-law, Shirley Clarke of Iron Mountain; eight grandchildren, William F. Clarke III of Orlando, FL, Lynne (Leon) Sutherland of Traverse City, MI, Cathy (Craig) Anderson of Chicago, IL, Bob (Elizabeth) Clarke of Lynchburg, VA, Tom Clarke of Phoenix, AZ, Tara (David) Daavettila of Brighton, MI, Tiffany Clarke of Grand Rapids, MI and

Tamara (Matthew) Nash of Iron Mountain; nine great grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

Helen was also preceded in death by an infant daughter, a son, C. Robert Clarke, two brothers and three sisters.

Visitation will be on Monday from 4:00 to 6:00pm at the Erickson-Rochon and Nash Funeral Home in Iron Mountain. Parish prayers will be recited at 6:00pm Monday at the funeral home. Funeral services will be held on Tuesday at 10:00am at St. Mary and St. Joseph's Catholic Church. Fr. Daniel Zaloga will offer the Mass of Christian Burial.

Burial will be in Quinnesec Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to St. Mary and St. Joseph's Catholic Church.

Condolences may be expressed to the family of Helen Clarke online at [www.e rnashfuneralhomes.com](http://www.e rnashfuneralhomes.com).

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

# Tribute Wall

M(

“ We are so sorry to hear about Helen. I will always remember bridge night at our house,. I got to see everyone once a month at our house,my mom(Mae Julian)and your mom loved the game. I will remember the days at kresgee's having a coke and my mom and Helen and Anne having coffee. Then we would all sit around and chat for around 45 minutes!!!My husband Chuck had her as a 5th grade teacher at St.Marys and St.Joes'. So we both had many memories of your mom. Our heart goes out to you, and may god bless you .Maureen and Chuck Pasten

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**Maureen (Jilian)Pasten** - April 16, 2005 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ *Helen Clarke was my 5th grade teacher. She was the best. She was kind, fair, and patient with us. With such big classes and little prep time, I wonder now how she ever did it. She inspired me to become a teacher actually. I remember donating blood at a local Iron Mountain blood drive when I was a first year teacher, and she was there as well. I was really proud to tell her that I too, was a 5th grade teacher now! I will always remember her lovely shoe collection ..... they were so pretty! The flowered heels were my favorites!*

*My career has taken me to Appleton, Phoenix, and now Rhinelander/Three Lakes. I am saddened to hear of Mrs. Clarke's death. My condolences go out to her family and friends.*

*With sympathy and fond memories,*

*Jean (Bertoldi) Miazga*

*SSM&J*

*Class of '66*

*IMHS*

*Class of '70*

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**Jean (Bertoldi) Miazga** - October 13, 2004 at 12:00 AM

RT

“ Dear Tom and Patricia,

*My sincere condolences to you and your family on the recent loss of Tom's mother Helen. It was with sadness and understanding that I heard and read of her passing. Losing a parent is always very difficult, regardless of how many blessed years we have had with them. Take care and god bless and know that you are in our thoughts and prayers.*

*Richard & Sharon Thoun  
719 East A Street, IM*

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**Richard J. Thoun** - September 08, 2004 at 12:00 AM