



Lorraine Babcock

June 6, 1931 - June 6, 2013

Lorraine Babcock, 82, of Iron Mountain, passed away on Thursday, June 6, 2013 at her son's home in Englewood, Colorado. She was born on March 28, 1931 in Perkins, Michigan, daughter of the late Adalore and Nellie (Brouse) Gerou. She attended Rock High School, graduating in 1950. She married C. "Lynn" Babcock on August 8, 1964 at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Perkins, and they lived in Gladstone, MI. He preceded her in death on March 24, 2007. A sister, Charmaine Gerou, a sister-in-law, Rosie Gerou, and brothers-in-law, Harry Lee Babcock and Joseph Lyle Babcock, also preceded her in death.

When Lorraine moved to Iron Mountain, MI in 1974, she became an active member of St. Mary and St. Joseph Catholic Church. As a parishioner, she taught CCD, cared for the altar linens, performed sacristans and counted for the church. For nearly 40 years, she worked at the rectory to care for the priests, do housekeeping and gardening. Lorraine loved to bake, make preserves, pick berries and garden; taking special pride in her beautiful roses and vegetables, which she shared with everyone. She was a dedicated Packer fan and avid supporter of local sports teams.

Lorraine will be remembered for her warm hugs and strong friendships. She had an unending amount of love and support that she shared in many ways: a sympathetic ear, a shoulder to cry on, and something freshly baked. Lorraine took pride in her children and grandchildren and would travel great distances

to visit. She would remember and celebrate all of life's milestones with her loved ones. She will be greatly missed.

Lorraine is survived by her son, Larry Babcock of Englewood, CO.; daughters Traci (Richard) Blundell of Shepperton, England, and Wendy (Carlo) Kriekels of Denver, CO.; four grandchildren, Sam and Maria Blundell and Jack and Tristan Kriekels; brothers and sisters, Adalore (Theresa) Gerou, Jr. of Escanaba, Catherine Grace (Dennis) Schaefer of Appleton, WI, William Gerou of Escanaba, Wilfred "Buck" (Sheila) Gerou of Edwardsburg, MI; sister-in-law, Jauson Gerou; several nieces, nephews, great and great great nieces and nephews.

The visitation is scheduled for Sunday, June 16, 2013 from 4:00 to 6:00 pm at the Erickson-Rochon and Nash Funeral Home in Iron Mountain, and on Monday, June 17, from 9:00 am to 10:00 am at the St. Mary and St. Joseph Catholic Church in Iron Mountain. The funeral Mass will follow at 10:00 am on Monday at the church. Fr. Daniel Zaloga and Fr. Paul Nomellini will offer the Mass of Christian Burial. Burial will be in the Gardens of Rest Cemetery in Wells, Michigan, presided over by Fr. Rick Courier.

Condolences to the family of Lorraine Babcock may be expressed online at ernashfuneralhomes.com.

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

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 16. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

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

Visitation

JUN 17. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (CT)

St. Mary & St. Joseph Catholic Church
414 Prospect Ave.
Iron Mountain, MI 49801

Funeral Mass

JUN 17. 10:00 AM (CT)

St. Mary & St. Joseph Catholic Church
414 Prospect Ave.
Iron Mountain, MI 49801

Tribute Wall

PF

“ Dear Wendy, Traci and Larry,

I am so sorry to hear about the loss of your mom. She was an awesome person. I remember her helping my mom with Campfire Girl meetings in our basement. I can remember the lunches she made us and the many interesting conversations we had when we got together. Your mom will be sadly missed.

Pam Parsons Dupuis

Pam Parsons Duouis - Kenosha, WI - friend - July 08, 2013 at 12:00 AM

BN

“ Good morning,

Yesterday everyone gathered to speak of the life of Aunt Lorraine. She was wise, traveled, kind, and loved by many. Who wouldn't miss someone possessing these attributes? She was a phenomenal woman. She cared for her children deeply, and showed this by spending time with them. From a stick of gum in a card to the best banana bread ever made, she did things with care. We will all miss her.

Our time here on earth is short. I pray she has the company of those that have gone before her, Uncle Lynn and Aunt Char, two that come to my mind. Uncle Lynn accepted the Lord in his heart in October before he passed. He prayed a simple prayer with me asking the Lord to come into his heart, that he believed that He died for him so his sins could be forgiven. I will never forget that trip, nor the joy of knowing he would one day be in heaven.

We all have different journeys in life. I currently work at a cancer hospital and choose to fight cancer with everything I've got- technology, physicians, clinicians, researchers, and love. Love not only covers a multitude of sins it allows you to care for strangers, to pray for others, to believe in faith that the Lord will do what He has promised. Today my prayer for you is that the Lord is in your heart and you have spoken this (Romans 10 verse 9) word of salvation. May He comfort and guide you all the days of your life.

Beth - Philadelphia, PA - niece - June 18, 2013 at 12:00 AM

MG

“ I am so sorry for your families loss as well as my own. Growing up I always believed Mrs. Babcock was Grams sister when I told them this awhile back they both had such a laugh. She will be sadly missed by so many but forever remembered for being such a Special and Amazing woman

Missi - Formerly Iron Mt , MI - Her Best Friends granddaughter - June 17, 2013 at 12:00 AM

NF

“ I have a special connection to Lorraine and I can't explain why. All I know is she always reached to me for a hug even at first when she didn't know me very well. I'll never forget the memorable ride home from church with Wendy and Lorraine near the end of her life. I was feeling low about the way my recovery from surgery was going. Lorraine said, "Nancy, they say we aren't supposed to ask why but sometimes....." as she was saying it I could hear the doubt in her own voice. It isn't easy to have faith during difficult times but Lorraine showed tremendous courage during her last days. She inspired me to do the same every time I was near her. I will always love her for that. Peace be with her. Love, Nancy

Nancy Dillinger - Denver, CO - friend - June 17, 2013 at 12:00 AM

CM

“ I have many fond memories of our family get togethers. One of my earliest memories of your mom was shortly after Larry was born. There was so much love in that precious cottage home of theirs, that it left an indelible imprint on my heart. Your mom has touched so many lives and was such an inspiration to many.

Colleen Carlton LaLonde - Chassell, MN - June 16, 2013 at 12:00 AM

CF

“ Larry, Traci and Wendy,

I was so sorry to hear about the loss of your mom. I have many fond memories of our family get togethers as kids in Gladstone and in Iron Mountain. I admired your mom's strength, faith, warm heart, and her dedication/support for all of you, epecially at the track meets. My mom cherished their friendship and I know how much she appreciates how you all have stayed in touch with her over the years. You are all in my heart, thoughts and prayers. Many hugs to your family.

Cassie Carlton Wilson - Okemos, MI - Family friend - June 16, 2013 at 12:00 AM

FF

“ To the kids she so loved,

I want to thank you for sharing your mother with so many of us who served as Assistants at St. Mary & St. Joseph's - she knew how to keep us in line and always made sure we looked good before we went into public. She has blessed our lives and made us better priests.

"There is another angel in heave to help us."

You have my love and gratitude..

Fr. John

Fr. John Longbucco - L'Anse, MI - One priest she cared for - June 15, 2013 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ Larry, Tracy, Wendy, My prayers are with you at this time of loss. Your mother was such a close friend and neighbor in Gladstone and we were together almost everyday when you kids were young and played with Brian and Jenny. I have great memories of your Mom. We ended up moving to Iron Mountain and I would run into your Mom quite a bit as she walked at the mall. We would chat and she was always telling me about her travels to England and Colorado.
Judy Krieg

Judy Krieg - Quinnesec, MI - June 15, 2013 at 12:00 AM

CB

“ Ik wens jullie veel sterkte met het overlijden van jullie mama, schoonmama en oma.

Dikke knuffels

Christine

CHRISTINE WIJGAERTS - DIEPENBEEK, BELGIUM - June 14, 2013 at 12:00 AM

ND

“ Wendy,

*We want to say to you how sorry we are your mom passed away.
We wish you all comfort in these difficult weeks !*

Niels , Sarah , Semke and Dries - June 14, 2013 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ Larry and Family,
So sorry for the loss of your mom, my prayers are with you.

Jana Lavelle - June 14, 2013 at 12:00 AM

CF

“ Love to you all Larry, Tracy and Wendy-

You know that "Sweet Lorraine" or "Ma Babcock" was like a second mom to me growing up in IM. You are lucky to have had such a warm wonderful mom that loved on whoever came to the house.

I will miss her bear hugs, pound cake, and the way she laughed at all the stupid things we did in high school (and beyond)!

I pray the God will give you strength, grace and comfort to help you with the pain of grief and loss of such a wonderful woman!

OXOX
Carolyn and Family

Carolyn (Johnson) Doyle - Chanhassen, MN - Friend of the family - June 14, 2013 at 12:00 AM

PF

“ Dear Traci, Wendy and Larry, I am so happy I had the visit with your Mom this Spring. We have so many wonderful memories of shared holidays, tea and treats, and the wonderful relationship she shared with my Mom.

She is a treasure we hold dear in our hearts. She will be in our prayers.

I got flights to Green Bay in hopes we could bring Mom to the services, but had to cancel them today. Bill has taken a turn for the worse and there was no one to care for him if I came alone. Please know we would have been there if this had not happened.

Love to all of your families. Phyllis and Bill Boyle

Phyllis and Bill Boyle - Addison, MI - Friend - June 13, 2013 at 12:00 AM

CC

“ Larry, Wendy and Traci,

I am deeply sorry for your loss. Please accept my sincerest sympathy.

*Namaste,
Carrie*

Carrie Koffman - CT - June 13, 2013 at 12:00 AM

CT

“ Traci, Wendy and Larry, so sorry to hear about your mom. It sounds like you have a lot of great memories. May they bring you peace.

You and your family are in my prayers.

God Bless,

Cindy Schultz

Cindy Schultz - Minneapolis, MN - High school classmate of Traci's - June 13, 2013 at 12:00 AM

KF

“ Our sincere condolences with the passing of your Mom , Carmem and Jan

Kriekels Jan en Carmen - Diepenbeek - Familie - June 13, 2013 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ Ever since Wendy came into my life, Lorraine was there as well. She always welcomed me as part of the family and greeted me with a warm, big hug. I will always remember when she and Lynn joined in the baptism of our daughter - because they became a part of our family too. I will always remember the last time that I saw Lorraine: we just sat and held hands with our heads resting upon each other. That was Lorraine - so much love to share.

Wendy, Larry and Traci, my heart and prayers are with you.

Julie Speer - Denver - Friend - June 13, 2013 at 12:00 AM

BR

“ My prayers and sympathy to the entire family but especially to Adalore and William (Bill) whom I know personally. Time will heal the loss.

Barbara A Nelson - Escanaba, MI - No relation - June 13, 2013 at 12:00 AM

SP

“ It was my privilege to volunteer and know Lorriane Babcock. My family and I are members of the Saint Mary St Joseph Church and have been for over 20 years. We did not know who Lorriane was and how special she was to the church until she and I became Sacristan Partners. Every five weeks we would meet in the Saint Mary Saint Joseph sacristan, complete our duties and then talk for at least 30 minutes. Trying to take her out to lunch was a challenge. She always had something to 'get back to' at home or some left overs in the fridge to snack on. Occasionally, she would let me buy her a cheeseburger from Wendy's. During our talks, she would always update me on her children, grandchildren and their recent accomplishments. She glowed when talking about the grandchildren. And also giggled. I can hear that soft chuckle/giggle now. She did have the chance to meet my husband, Dick, after mass one morning. She was so happy to put a 'face to the name', as I had told her all about his working on the road for over 10 years and I too lived alone now. She was always positive and would remind me to keep the happy memories the closest. She changed my view on volunteering for the church. I also had taught CCD 15-20 years ago for St. Mary St Joseph but, soon worked full time many years and never thought I had time to volunteer for the church. Well, something inside me lead me back to volunteering at the church. I made time. And in making time to help the church 30 minutes a month, I met one of the most loving, generous, peaceful souls I have had the good fortune to call my friend. I called her a few times in CO this past winter and we chatted. She sounded happy. Happy to be with family and around the grandchildren. I can't wait to see her again and let her know how the Angel Food Candy recipe she gave me turned out. Delicious. Thank you Lorriane. You hold a very special place in my heart. I miss you. X

Sharon Neubauer - Iron Mountain, MI - friend/sacristan partner - June 13, 2013
at 12:00 AM

MM

“ Wendy, Traci and Larry-

So sorry to hear about the passing of your Mom. Please know that you are all in our thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

Michelle Lusardi Kralovec - Iron Mountain, MI - June 12, 2013 at 12:00 AM