



M. Rapaich

M. Cecille Rapaich

IRON MOUNTAIN - M. Cecille Rapaich, 81, of 511 East 6th St., Iron Mountain, died Monday, Feb. 16, 2004, at her home.

Cecille was born Feb. 1, 1923, in Waterbury, Conn., daughter of the late Clinton and Marie (Cote') Fitch.

She moved to Tennessee at an early age and attended high school at the Notre Dame Academy in Chattanooga, Tenn., graduating in 1940. After high school, she completed a two-year secretarial program.

Cecille married Dan Rapaich on March 31, 1949, in Chattanooga, and since 1951 they resided in the Iron Mountain area. She worked as a secretary for Iron Mountain High School for more than 20 years, retiring in 1993.

Cecille was a member of St. Mary and St. Joseph Catholic Church in Iron Mountain and the Hospital League. She was also an active member of the Dickinson County Republican Party.

She was a avid reader and hobbyist and maintained an active lifestyle, in relative good health, until her death. Cecille shared a love for the Green Bay Packers with her children and grandchildren and relished their company as all cheered enthusiastically for their beloved team on "Packer Sunday."

Cecille's adoration for her grandchildren was evident in many ways. Her numerous expressions of love will live on through the personalized Christmas ornaments she crafted every year, in the clothing she sewed for her children and grandchildren, in the knit sweaters and hats she made which warmed

them and in the care and creativity she displayed in baking sweets and treats for them. She will be greatly missed.

Cecille is survived by one son, Mark Rapaich of Westfield, Iowa; four daughters, Diane Rapaich of Royal Oak, lower Michigan, Amy (Bruce) Moser of Madison, Wis., Dr. Ellen (Jeff) VanLaanen of Iron Mountain and Lisa (James) Carollo of Iron Mountain; two sisters, Elaine (Earl) Barrows of Waxahachie, Texas and Barbara Fitch of Chattanooga; 12 grandchildren, Allie and Bernadette Rapaich, Katrina and Ben Moser, Hannah, Colin, Russell, Seth, Grace, and Dominic VanLaanen, and Angela and Santino Carollo; several nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be on Wednesday from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Erickson-Rochon & Nash Funeral Home in Iron Mountain. Parish Prayers will be recited at 7 p.m. on Wednesday at the funeral home.

A Memorial Mass will be held on Thursday at 11 a.m. at St. Mary Queen of Peace Catholic Church in Kingsford. Fr. Dan Zaloga will officiate.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Dan and Cecille Rapaich Family Scholarship Fund at Iron Mountain High School.

Condolences may be expressed to the family of Cecille Rapaich online at www.ernashfuneralhomes.com.

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

Tribute Wall

DI

“ *Dear Diane and Family,
I am so very sorry to hear of the sudden and sad loss of your dear mother. I only met her once, but, even that one time made it clear what a sweet and lovely woman she was. I know you all have beautiful memories of her and all the wonderful times you have shared together. May those beautiful thoughts and God's love help you through the very difficult days ahead. Courage and love to you-
Dianna*

DiannaLaRosa - February 18, 2004 at 12:00 AM

TC

“ *Diane & the entire Rapaich Family,
We are very sorry for your loss. You are in our thoughts & prayers.
Tim & Joan*

Tim Cosens - February 18, 2004 at 12:00 AM

SN

“ *Ellen, Jeff, and the entire family. My condolences to all of you on the passing of your Mother. I trust that you find comfort in the Lord and in all the great memories of your Mom and her life. Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you. Stu*

Stu Nelson - February 18, 2004 at 12:00 AM

DT

“ *Diane, We are so sorry to hear about your mother. It must be such a shock for you and your family. Dianna told me what a kind and beautiful woman your mother was. Please take comfort in knowing that our thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time. Unfortunately, we cannot make it to Iron Mountain for the funeral, but we will definately be there in spirit. May time and the wonderful memories you have of your mother help heal the sorrow you feel.*

*With love and deepest sympathy,
Darrel and Tonya Johnson*

Darrel and Tonya - February 18, 2004 at 12:00 AM

KL

“ *I was so suprised and sorry to hear about Aunt Cecil's passing. Unfortunately, I will not be able to come up for the funeral, because of work committments. Mom (your Aunt Barbie) won't fly, and is fearful of the weather in the UP this time of year, so she won't be able to attend, even though I think she would really like to be there. As I understand, she did not suffer, which is such a blessing. I was so hoping to see her again, but now must plan on a trip to heaven for that next visit. Aunt Cecil was such a sweet and gentle soul, we were all better for having her in our lives. My thoughts and prayers are with you all.*

*Love,
Karen*

Karen Hunnicutt Luther - February 17, 2004 at 12:00 AM