



Marie DeGayner

August 5, 1910 - August 9, 2005

"Marie DeGayner"

KINGSFORD - Marie M. DeGayner, died Tuesday, Aug. 9, 2005, at Freeman's Nursing and Rehabilitation Community four days after celebrating her 95th birthday with her family.

Marie was born in Marathon County, Wis., on Aug. 5, 1910, to the late Otto and Sophie (Hernke) Seeger.

Marie married Ralph DeGayner on Sept. 7, 1930, at Menominee. They celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in 1980. Ralph died the following year on July 31, 1981.

Marie graduated from Edgar High School in Edgar, Wis. in 1928, then attended Oshkosh State Normal and began her teaching career at Waukesha in the school year of 1930-31. She then taught at Central School in Iron Mountain in 1931-1932. Taking time out to rear a family of six children - five boys, Eugene, Ralph, Felton, Clayton, and Alden and one girl, Hazel Dault, she didn't get back into teaching until 1950.

In 1959, she received her bachelor of science degree and her master of the arts in 1962. She taught at Channing from 1950-1962. She taught at Champion for a year and at Republic from 1964-1968.

Marie and her husband, Ralph, moved to Deming, N.M for his health and she became a teacher with the Deming Public School System in 1968. She was honored by the Masons as Teacher of the Year in 1975, the year she was forced to retire due to ill health. She then spent 13 1/2 years tutoring students

at Smith School and helping them with reading problems. At Smith Elementary, she was a reading specialist the last four years of her time there. During the years before this, she taught the sixth grade. All those years of tutoring following her retirement were volunteer work without compensation. Marie returned to the area in 1991 to live at Evergreen Heights Apartments to be closer to her family. She was a member of the First Presbyterian Church. Mrs. DeGayner is survived by her six children; a brother, Arnold Seeger of Minneapolis; a sister, Margaret Weinkauff of Wausau, Wis.; her 25 grandchildren; 46 great-grandchildren and four great-great grandchildren. Marie was preceded in death by her husband, Ralph; her parents, Sophie and Otto Seeger and her brother, George.

Teaching was Marie's life. She lived to help children learn to read and it is estimated that she has helped many thousands of students to achieve a better and successful life.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday at 11 a.m. at the First Presbyterian Church. Rev. Michael March will officiate.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made to the First Presbyterian Church Scholarship Fund.

Condolences may be expressed to the family of Marie DeGayner online at www.ernashfuneralhomes.com.

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

Tribute Wall

CS

“ I've been looking for Mrs. Degayner online for some time & found this. She was an exceptional woman. A great friend to my mother, I was so impressed by her as a child. I remember sitting by her piano at her home as she taught me to play "The Birthday Party" song . I loved being in her class. She was my first real person outside my family that I remember & I've never forgotten her friendship & caring. She was so very special. I wish my grandchildren could have had her as a teacher.
We no longer live in Michigan but she is one of my top memories of childhood.

Charlene Robare - channing, , MI - student - August 18, 2011 at 12:00 AM

GD

“ I was serfing the net and found this tribute to Marie. I noticed that she died on my birthday which stuck me. I only met her once at the family home in Iron Mountain. I was very young and remember lots of kids around. Ralph showed me and my father the bow and aero factory and gave me a lemon wood bow to take home. He was an artest and I have two of his pictures hanging in our home. My father was Herold DeGayner and his father was Napolian DeGayner. I would be really interested in learning more about the DeGayner family, where they came from and any other historical information.

Gary DeGayner - December 14, 2006 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ Dear Al,
Our deepest sympathies on the loss of your Mother. You must have been very proud of her as I am sure she was of you.
In Christ's love,
John and Marcie

John and Marcie - August 15, 2005 at 12:00 AM

FP

“ Dear Al, Sue and family,
So sorry to read about your Mom's passing. How wonderful to have her for so many years, and to enjoy spending the last special Birthday with her. May God grant you the needed strength to help you through this time of great loss. Our deepest sympathy, you'll be in our thoughts and prayers.
Love and Warm hugs, Frank, Lucia and family

Frank and Lucia Pairolero - August 14, 2005 at 12:00 AM

LB

“ So sorry to hear of your Mom's passing. She was a great lady.

It's been such a long time since we've been in touch. We'll be thinking of you all.

Lyle Boucher - August 11, 2005 at 12:00 AM

LR

“ Dear Hazel and Family... please know that our thoughts and prayers are with you during this sad time....I know she was a great lady and was loved by all....sincerely....Lois and Bruce Ring

Lois and Bruce Ring - August 11, 2005 at 12:00 AM