



Martha Draze

September 13, 1923 - September 18, 2004

"Martha Draze"

IRON MOUNTAIN - Martha M. (Roberts) Draze, 81, of 507 West C St., Iron Mountain, died Saturday, Sept. 18, 2004, at Maryhill Manor Nursing Home in Niagara, Wis.

Martha was born on Sept. 13, 1923, in Michiwaka, Ind., the daughter of the late Fred and Helen (Long) Roberts. She was raised from early childhood by her aunt and uncle, Joseph and Cora Roberts.

She graduated from St. Paul Catholic High School in Negaunee in 1940. Martha went on to receive her cosmetology license from Crest School of Cosmetology in Marquette.

Martha married James Draze on Aug. 17, 1946, in Negaunee. She worked as a cosmetologist for several years in Ishpeming and Munising. Together, Martha and James owned and operated the Bel-Vue Hotel and Coffee Shop in Munising for many years.

After selling the Bel-Vue, they moved their home west of AuTrain on the shores of Lake Superior. While living there Martha worked as a clerk for the Alger-Schoolcraft Health Department until retiring in 1982. Shortly after retiring, they moved to Iron Mountain where they have resided ever since. Martha was a member of St. Mary and St. Joseph Catholic Church in Iron Mountain. She was an excellent seamstress and cook. She enjoyed taking tour buses to the casino, snowshoeing and furniture refinishing with her husband, Jim. Martha loved spending time with her family at their lake home

and she also loved her pets.

She is survived by her husband of 58 years, Jim; two sons, James R. (Deanna) Draze of Kalamazoo, lower Michigan and Michael J. (Linda) Draze of Minneapolis; a daughter, Kathy (George) Pond of Iron Mountain; a brother, Joseph Roberts of Negaunee; a sister, Marie Bomaster of White Lake, lower Michigan; three grandchildren, Tony Draze of Mountain Iron, Minn., George (Breanna) Pond Jr. of Ann Arbor, lower Michigan and Steven (Clara) Pond of Avondale, Ariz. and several nieces and nephews.

Martha was preceded in death by three brothers, Don, Bill, and Jim Roberts. Visitation will be on Saturday from noon until 1 p.m. at St. Mary and St. Joseph Catholic Church.

A Memorial Mass will follow at Saturday 1 p.m. at the church. Fr. Daniel Zaloga will officiate.

Burial will be in Maple Grove Cemetery in Munising.

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

Condolences may be expressed to the family of Martha Draze online at www.ernashfuneralhomes.com.

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

Tribute Wall

PH

“ Jimmy: I was very sorry to hear about the death of your mother. I remember the great times we had at the Bel-Vue Hotel and at your camp on Lost Lake. Your mom treated me like I was one of your family and I remember her kindness well, even after 40 years. Peter Haag, Northville MI

Peter Haag - November 06, 2004 at 12:00 AM

FA

“ George...so sorry to hear of your Mom's passing. I remember how active she was in the Echoes parent's club, and seeing her and your dad at all the events. May God give you the grace you need at this time of need, and may you trust Him in all your decisions.

--Fred

Fred Ahlborn - September 24, 2004 at 12:00 AM

WA

“ Many happy memories of you folks, mostly at the morning coffee sessions at the Belvue. Jane and I moved back here in late 1995 and several yerars later, I started working at the Munising News, now owned by Wille Peterson, former MJ ad man. He recalls your days with the MJ doing everything here in the Munising area. The Bel Vue isn't open anymore but it'll always be 'Jim and Martha's place for many of us here. Our prayers are with you and your family in your loss.

Wally Ahlborn - September 24, 2004 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ Jim: So sorry to hear of your great loss. We think of you folks so often, especially since we moved back to the Munising area (1995, when John retired). We picture Martha smiling, since that's the way she always seemed to be. God bless and keep you in your grief and always. John and Jo Anne Swanson

John & Jo Anne Swanson - September 23, 2004 at 12:00 AM

AL

“ Jim - very sorry to hear about Martha. I remember both of you from Munising, and the Bel-View Hotel. I grew up there. My parents were Jim & Pat LaCombe. I remember you both being friends of theirs. Andrea LaCombe Jensen

Andrea LaCombe - September 21, 2004 at 12:00 AM