



Orice M. Walters

June 23, 1934 - January 18, 2024

Our Mom, Orice May (Theisen) Walters, age 89, went home to be with her Lord and Savior on January 18, 2024 after battling cancer. She was born on June 23, 1934 in Iron Mountain MI, the daughter of Helfreda “Sue” and Denis “Doc” Theisen.

Mom attended Iron Mountain High School and was a member of the Class of 1952. On August 17, 1951 she married her junior high school sweetheart, our dad, Harlan Walters. They were married in Iron Mountain where they spent 63 wonderful years together before Dad entered eternal life in 2015.

Mom worked at Kentucky Fried Chicken when it was located at the Dickinson Inn in Iron Mountain, she sewed curtains for Bond Decorating and worked at Shopko. In 1985 Mom and Dad went into business for themselves providing vinyl windows to the area. Walters Windows introduced Vinyl-Pro windows to the U.P.

Mom was a very community minded person and through the years was active as a Cub Scout Den Mother, Girl Scout and Campfire Girls leader. She also was the PTA/PTO secretary while her children were attending school.

Within the community, in the 1960’s Mom and Dad belonged to a Square Dancing group, Mom helped organize the local Big Sisters of Dickinson County, and served on the Board of Directors for Big Brother/Big Sisters, Mom also presided as President of General Federation of Women’s Clubs (GFWC)

for several years. In their later years, Mom and Dad became very active in the Golden K. Mom has served as Program Chairperson, GK Board of Directors, member of Golden Throats even directing when desperately needed, and wrote the weekly GK article for the Daily News. Mom and Dad were members of Oak Crest Golf Club for many years where they golfed as part of a couples group.

Mom had a deep faith and it showed in the various positions she was elected to within the Lutheran Church. She was the first woman elected as Vice President and Council Chairman of the ELCA Northern Great Lakes Synod, a position which she held for eight years. As a part of the NGLS, Mom also served on the Mission Outreach Committee. She also served on the WI-Upper Michigan Lutheran Church Women Council. Mom and Dad were members of First Lutheran Church in Iron Mountain for many years where Mom sang in the choir, initiated and was a leader of the Lydia Circle Bible Study group, was a Lutheran Church Women President, and helped start the Women's Camping week at Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp.

After her and Dad joined Bethany Lutheran Church in Norway, Mom continued her service to the church by again singing with the choir, being a member of the Bethany Ladies Guild, a Parish Advisory Board member, Co-coordinator for the Cornerstone Community Carnival for several years, was a lay-reader and Bible Study member.

The extended family referred to Mom and our family as the "Chocolate Walters". She loved to bake brownies and made many batches of them to share with family and to give away to others.

Besides our Dad and Momm's parents, preceding her in death was her brother Earl Theisen, her sister Betty Nelson, her first infant grandchild Chelsea Pierce, and son-in-law Jerry Pierce. Also sisters-in-law Ruth and Nancy Theisen, brothers-in-law Leslie Walters and Rodney Walter.

Mom loved her family! She leaves behind four children who cared for both her and Dad in the years they needed it most. They are Christy (Gary) Wolff of Appleton, WI and her family, Heidi (Gary) McGeough, Tyler (Megan) and Austin; Ryan (Angela) Pierce, Dayton, Genasea, Nataly, Maria and Vincent; Lennie (Lorrie) Walters of Quinnesec, MI and his family, Lennie II (Becky) Walters and Jonathan, Mack (Nikki) Walters, Ally and Adam; Sally (Bill) Borga of Norway, MI and her family, Kimberly (Matt) Mollick, Dartagnan, Dace and Kainsley; Katie (Jerome) Ritzman, Branch and Truett; Neil (Ina) Borga; and Tim Walters of Waucesaw, MI and his family, Janay Walters (Jordan) and Tori Walters.

She loved her grandchildren and great-grandchildren and always enjoyed attending their sporting and school events and programs whenever possible.

Mom also leaves behind her sister, Marge Nelson of Iron Mountain, brother, Wayne Theisen of Randville, sister-in-law, Arlene Walter of Peoria, AZ, her God-children, Pam Nelson and Torvin Theisen and many nieces and nephews who she loved hearing from and keeping in touch through phone calls, texts, emails, Facebook and personal visits.

In memory of Mom, we ask you to wear pink, her favorite color, to her Celebration of Life. If you cannot attend, wear pink on that day.

Our family would like to thank Dr Morel and his office for their wonderful attention to our Mom; also to Marshfield Medical Center-Dickinson County Home Health Care and Hospice for their wonderful care, tender attention and personal concern to Mom and our family in this journey.

Visitation will be held 10:00 am to 12:00 pm on Friday, January 26, 2024, at

Bethany Evangelical Lutheran Church in Norway. A memorial service will follow at noon at the church. Rev. Dave Johnson will officiate.

Condolences may be expressed to the family of Orice M. Walters online at www.ernashfuneralhomes.com

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

Cemetery Details

Cemetery Park

101 Cedar Ave.
Iron Mountain, MI 49801

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 26. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Bethany Evangelical Lutheran Church
130 O'Dill St.
Norway, MI 49870

Memorial Service

JAN 26. 12:00 PM (CT)

Bethany Evangelical Lutheran Church
130 O'Dill St.
Norway, MI 49870

Tribute Wall

PK

“ Orice Walters had completed two terms as the Synod Vice-President when I was elected to the office. She was so generous in telling me about the position, and reassuring me that indeed I could do the job. I appreciated her help and support very much. We saw each other from time to time at Synod Assemblies. My sincere sympathy to her family on the occasion of her passing. She was a wonderful member of the NGLS.

Pauline Kiltinen - January 29, 2024 at 08:13 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Orice M. Walters.



January 26, 2024 at 12:02 PM

TF

“ The Griffin Dwyer family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Orice M. Walters.

The Griffin Dwyer family - January 26, 2024 at 12:02 PM

SS

“ So sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you. I met Orice long ago at a SWO convention when i was a new Pastors wife, she was a woman of firm convictions and very sweet.

SOPHIE SCHOLER - January 23, 2024 at 03:51 PM



“ Sweet Tenderness was purchased for the family of Orice M. Walters.



January 23, 2024 at 11:05 AM



“ Sgt. Bill, sorry to hear about the passing of your mother-in-law from MSP newsletter today. She looked like a beautiful person in the picture they sent us.
Regards to your wife from all of us old E.S.T. guys as the wives were always one of us and pushed each team member at times. We are sorry for your families loss and all of her friends and supporters. Hope all goes well for you and your family during this trying period.
We miss you and support you and your family during this trying time.
Who Loves ya,
Jerry L. Ellsworth Ret. MSP Lt. EST 1982-2003

Jerry L. Ellsworth - January 22, 2024 at 12:50 PM



“ So very sorry to hear about Orice. She was always one of the first to offer condolences to families who lost loved ones. She was probably met by many who've passed to welcome her to her eternal rest. She will be missed. Sincere sympathy to all of you.

Cynthia Gordon - January 21, 2024 at 09:05 AM

JO

“ Every memory I have with Orice includes laughing and smiling! Praise the Lord for her faith and meaningful impact on all the lives of those she touched. We are a better community thanks to her tireless work of making a difference. She was an inspiration to all with her infectious smile, work ethic and volunteerism. I love you Orice and know you are rejoicing in heaven!

Jonathan - January 20, 2024 at 03:43 PM

WG

“ My wife and I sang with Orice when the Bethany and Grace choirs sang together. We read every one of her cheerful reports of the Golden K in the Daily News. She lived fully a model Christian life and affected hundreds of other people's lives. She leaves a big gap in the world but earned her eternal life triumphantly!

*Bill & Susanne Gay
Hamilton Lakes and Menomonee Falls, WI*

William Gay - January 20, 2024 at 11:53 AM



“ Orice was a super positive person with a big heart and a deep faith. She carried the light with her and let it shine.

Peter Jonas - January 20, 2024 at 10:35 AM

CS

“ I loved this Christian lady with her awesome sense of humor, her precious smile, and laughter. She was such a role model in her faith walk first meeting her at FLLC that she loved n seeing her at our synod conventions.
Prayers for the family at this time of loss.

Connie Schmidt - January 19, 2024 at 08:36 PM

RL

I will always remember Orice as the Queen of Fortune Lake. I am honored to have met her and loved her for being the wonderful person she was. Her sense of humor and laugh were contagious. My deepest sympathies to you Sally and all of her family, I know how much you will miss her. God be praised for her life and witness!

Rosemary Larson - January 20, 2024 at 06:54 AM

JS

Thanks be to God for the life of Orice. I echo the above comments as would my deceased husband, Dale, who was also a distant relative of her mother.

Jo Skogman - January 20, 2024 at 07:40 PM

DB

We won't make it to the funeral - but wanted to share some thoughts about a great lady. She was full of life, a twinkle in her eye and love for the Lord on her lips. Her photo represents what we remember of her. She was a "take charge" person who knew how to get things done with kindness and caring. We have many memories of her ELCA work- especially at the Synod level and her 3 years on the Christian Prison Ministry Committee. Since we are from Felch, we are probably related.

God rest her soul. Dave and Mary Lou Blomquist

David and Mary Lou Blomquist - January 25, 2024 at 01:00 PM