



## Rugean Fraker

October 11, 2009

KINGSFORD - Rugean M. Fraker, 92, formerly of Iron Mountain, died Sunday, Oct. 11, 2009, at the ManorCare Health Services in Kingsford.

She was born on Sept. 26, 1917, in Iron Mountain, the daughter of the late Herbert K. and Georgean F. (Powell) McDonnell. She graduated from Iron Mountain High School in 1935, and then from Dundon's Business College.

On Dec. 26, 1940, she married Leon J. Fraker at the First Presbyterian Church on Brown Street. Except for brief stays in Pontiac, Mich. and Milwaukee, Rugean and "Teenie" lived their lives in Iron Mountain.

Rugean was employed as a secretary at the First National Bank for many years, retiring in 1982.

During her retirement, she and her husband rode thousands of miles as members of the Pleasure Riders Motorcycle Club. The couple also celebrated their 70th birthdays with a two-wheeled trip to California. Rugean was a member of the First Presbyterian Church where she sang in the choir for more than 50 years and also served on the session. She was a member of the Order of Eastern Star, the White Shrine, and the Daughters of the Nile.

Music was a very important part of Rugean's life. In addition to their church

choir, she sang with the Dickinson County Community Chorus and appeared in several Lion's Roars and community theatre productions. Beginning before World War II and continuing for many years afterward, she sang with her cousins Dorothy Underhill, Jean LaHaie and Tillie Miller as the popular vocal group "The Uren Sisters." Rugean was also a member of Matinee Musicale.

She is survived by her son, Dennis (Suzanne) Fraker of Iron Mountain; her son-in-law, John Wahlstrom of Kingsford; her grandchildren, Jennifer (Tim) Spreen and Kristin (Mark) Novara, both of Kingsford, Melissa (Brian) Jones of Fayetteville, N.C., Emily (Matt) Brown of Macon, Ill., and Ian Fraker of Marquette; her great-grandchildren, Keira, Paige and Carter Jones, Ella and Jack Spreen, Nicolas Novara and Camryn and Charlotte Brown; as well as many nieces and nephews. She is also survived by her brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, Wayne and Beverly Fraker and Tony and Darlene Burgarino.

Rugean was preceded in death by her husband, Leon; her daughter, Karyn Wahlstrom; her brothers, Herbert and George McDonnell and an infant, sister Adele.

Visitation for Rugean Fraker will be Friday from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church in Kingsford.

An Eastern Star memorial service will be held at 4 p.m. Friday followed by the funeral services. The Rev. Michael March will officiate.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the First Presbyterian Church Building Fund.

Condolences may be expressed to the family of Rugean Mary Fraker online at [www.ernashfuneralhomes.com](http://www.ernashfuneralhomes.com)

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

# Tribute Wall

PA

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with you. I have many fond memories of Reugen. I worked with her for many years at First National Bank. She was a wonderful woman. God Bless you all.*

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**Patti Amicangelo-Campbell** - October 16, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ *Dennis, Sue, & family,  
Our condolences to you. Dennis, you had a beautiful mom who lived a full life. How wonderful she is now reunited with her loved ones.  
God Bless  
In Christ's love,  
John & Marcie Mouw*

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**John/Marcie Mouw** - October 16, 2009 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ *John & girls,  
  
My thoughts go out with during this difficult time. I am sure your mom was waiting for your grandma with open arms. God Bless you,  
Michelle*

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**Michelle (Floriano) Schneider** - October 16, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JA

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with you at this time of loss. My deepest sympathy to you all. May God help you heal, he is our Lord and Savior.*

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**Joyce Akkanen** - October 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM

SB

“ Dennis and family. I was sorry to read about your Mom. I'm sure that she and my Mom sang together in the Community Choir back when and probably in the plays. Remember all of the wonderful memories and that will help with some of the emptiness. You're in my thoughts and prayers.

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**Sally Jo (Wheeler) Bailey** - October 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM

MJ

“ Dennis and Family:  
I am so sorry for your loss. You did so much for your Mom.  
Mike

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**Michael Emmett Johnson** - October 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM

NW

“ My deepest sympathy to your family. I have always heard good things about Reugen from my mom (Maureen Julian-Pasten) and from my Uncle Jason Julian. Your family will be in my prayers.

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**Nicole Podgornik Walker** - October 14, 2009 at 12:00 AM

PS

“ Dear Dennis & Family:  
I was saddened to learn of your Mom's death, and know that my Mom was as well. Over the years at the bank, they formed a solid friendship that weathered the test of time. Irma has many rich memories of those years and of the laughter and tears that they shared. We were both blessed to have grown up in those days with such wonderful mother's. You and your loved ones will be in my thoughts and prayers.  
Patrick Sherman

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**Patrick Sherman** - October 14, 2009 at 12:00 AM

MP

“ *My sympathy to all of the family. May God give you the peace and comfort that you need at this time.*

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**Marilyn Phillips** - October 14, 2009 at 12:00 AM

AO

“ *Dennis, Susie and Family, sorry to hear of your loss of your Mom. My thoughts and prayers are with you.*

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**Amy Orn** - October 14, 2009 at 12:00 AM

KJ

“ *Dennis and Sue--Sorry for your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family*

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**Kim & Janet** - October 14, 2009 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with the whole Fraker/Wahlstrom families during this difficult transition. I will always remember Rugean fondly.*

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**Denise Smith** - October 13, 2009 at 12:00 AM

AR

“ *To Dennis and family and the Wahlstrom family: Gordy and I are sorry to hear of Rugean's passing. You are all in our thoughts and prayers.*

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**Alice Reed** - October 13, 2009 at 12:00 AM

FB

“ *Dennis*

*I deepest sympathy to you and your family on the loss of Reugen.  
SHe is probably up there visiting with everyone who has gone  
before her. My thoughts and prayers are with you.*

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**Frances Bennett** - October 13, 2009 at 12:00 AM