



Shirley Rice

December 11, 1929 - October 27, 2009

KINGSFORD - Shirley M. "Shirl" Rice, 79, of 1012 Emmet Ave., Kingsford, went to be with her Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ on Tuesday, Oct. 27, 2009, after a courageous battle with mesothelioma, lung cancer. She was surrounded by her loving family.

Shirley was born Dec. 11, 1929, in Iron Mountain, daughter of the late William and Agnes (Lundquist) Staple. She was a lifelong resident of Kingsford, and graduated in 1948 from Kingsford High School with her beloved husband of 50 years, Bernard D. "Bunny" Rice who preceded her in death in 2002.

She was a lifelong member of First Lutheran Church and was a member of the Lydia Circle. She enjoyed listening to music and was an avid bowler, playing in the couples league and on several teams. Shirley loved to spend time with her family and especially enjoyed attending her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren's sporting events and musical concerts.

Shirley and Bunny owned and operated Rice's Fried Cakes. She was a secretary for Fox Forest Products, a medical transcriptionist for Dr. William Hinz and retired from Customer Metal Fabrication in 1998. .

She is survived by a son, William (Sheree) Rice; seven daughters, Patti (Ron) Schneider, Vicki (Ford) Waterman, Debbie (Bill) Johnson, Lori (Jim) Machus,

Jodi LaVarnway, Tami (Jon) Olson, Jackie (Steve) Schaut; 17 grandchildren, Tanya (Dennis) DalSanto, Tara (Scott) Person, Aaron Schneider, Benjamin (Desiree) Schneider, William (Vivien) Johnson, Bjorn (Amber) Johnson, Brent Johnson (Jill Anderson), Bradley Machus, Kimberly (Matt) Newbold, Jamie LaVarnway, Matthew Rice, Michael, Kaylin and Daniel Olson, and Mike, Tyler and Trever Schaut; 13 great-grandchildren, Dylan, Victoria and Alexis DalSanto, Austin and Abigail Person, Carly and Colin Schneider, Luke Machus, Ashley and Rocke Johnson, and Madisyn, Hayden and Sydney Johnson; an aunt, Lillian Bouffiou; brother-in-law, William (Delores) Rice; sisters-in-law, Lois Rice and Noreen Rice; and many nieces and nephews.

Shirley was also preceded in death by her son-in-law, David LaVarnway, her mother-in-law and father-in-law, Leo and Hazel Rice, and brothers-in-law, Jackie, Melvin, James, Robert and Leo Rice, and grandson, Paul Waterman.

Visitation will be held on Thursday from 3 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Erickson-Rochon and Nash Funeral Home in Iron Mountain.

The funeral service will follow at 7 p.m. on Thursday at the First Lutheran Church. Rev. James Chinery will officiate.

Burial will be in Cemetery Park in Iron Mountain.

Shirley's grandsons will serve as pallbearers.

In lieu of flowers, a memorial will be established in her memory.

Shirley was the most wonderful mother the Lord could have blessed us with. Our lives will never be the same until we are reunited in Heaven. Words can not express how much we will miss her.

Condolences may be expressed to the family of Shirley M. Rice online at www.ernashfuneralhomes.com

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

Tribute Wall

MS

“ *To the Rice Family: Please accept my sincere condolences! The Sullivan Family grew up with the Rice Family and we hold you all very dear to our hearts! Marge Sullivan-Badini*

Marge Sullivan-Badini - December 19, 2009 at 12:00 AM

SP

“ *Dear Jamie and Family- I am so sorry to hear about your Grandmother/Mother. I know Jamie you been going through so much and i want you to know that your in my prayers and i do think and pray for you!!!! Love ya!*

Sam Pietrantonio - November 04, 2009 at 12:00 AM

RH

“ *Dear Vicki & Family, I am sorry to hear of your mothers passing. May God comfort you during this time of sorrow. My thoughts and prayers are with you all. May you be comforted knowing that your mother is in a far better place and that you will join her one day in Heaven with God. In deepest sympathy. Sincerely Love your friend, Randy Hicks*

Randy Hicks - November 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM

BP

“ *Jackie and Family. Really Sorry to hear about your Mother. Our thoughts and prayers are with you. Thinking about You All.*

Pam & Bob

Bob & Pam - October 30, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ *Jamie and Family, so sorry for your losses. My thoughts and prayers are with you all.*

jenni lindstrom - October 29, 2009 at 12:00 AM

MB

“ *Dear Bill & Family-We are very sorry to hear of the loss of your mother. I have fond memory of her and our thoughts are with you.*

Mike and Julie Bryant - October 29, 2009 at 12:00 AM

SR

“ *Dear Jackie and family,
I'm so sorry to hear about your mothers passing. My thoughts and prayers are with you.*

Sherry (Kosiba) Rochon - October 29, 2009 at 12:00 AM

SB

“ *Dear Tami and family, My heart goes out to you all. I remember so many KHS football and basketball games with your family always there. May your memories give you strength during this difficult time. Peace, prayers, and hugs!*

Sue (Mannigel) Brown - October 29, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JA

“ *Dear Vicki and Ford and Family,
We are so sorry to hear of your Mother's passing, but we are happy with you that she is with our Lord. Might His peace that passes understanding comfort you all at this sad time. We keep you in our prayers. We love you, Jim and Beverly*

Jim and Beverly Alfonso - October 28, 2009 at 12:00 AM

BP

“ Dear Tami and All - So sorry to hear of your loss of mother and friend. May God Bless all of you in this time of deep sorrow.

Barbara Partanen - October 28, 2009 at 12:00 AM

DN

“ Dear Vicki & Family, Thinking of you all & how your hearts must ache. I can picture your parents making donuts & seeing them at football games-they formed your closeness as a family, what a gift. What a blessing to know we shall all meet again. Prayers of peace & comfort, Love, Denise

Denise Nault - October 28, 2009 at 12:00 AM

DO

“ We are so sorry for your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all. May the love and support of family and friends help you through this very difficult time. May you feel Gods love and peace.

Debbie and Mike Oberdorfer - October 28, 2009 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ Dear Jackie & Family- We are sorry to hear of your loss, may the Lord's Blessings be with you all during this time of mourning. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Dan & Sharon Schaut - October 28, 2009 at 12:00 AM

CP

“ Lori, Jodi & family,

*You are in my prayers. May you find peace & comfort as a family during this time of loss. I still remember growing up with the wonderful aroma of donuts in the neighborhood. Hold on to your family memories. You have my deepest sympathy,
Chris*

Christine Hanson Paoletti - October 28, 2009 at 12:00 AM

MD

“ Dear Vicki & Family ~ I am so sorry to hear of your mom's passing. She was a remarkable woman who inspired many and was a delight to talk with. Her family was so important to her. Many admired her efforts to keep everyone together. Your mom will be dearly missed. Even though you and I are far apart right now, please know that I'm praying for you. I know that you have the strength to move on. I'm here for you. If there is anything I can do to ease your pain, please let me know.

Melissa Daigneault - October 28, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JW

“ Dear Jodi and Jamie, We are so sorry to learn of the passing of your mother and grandmother. Such a sorrowful year for both of you. May it be of some comfort for you to know that you are always in our thoughts and prayers even though miles separate us. Our love and prayers for you and your family. Jane and Frank

Jane and Frank Wayne - October 28, 2009 at 12:00 AM

A(

“ Dear Cousins, We're saddened to hear of Aunt Shirley's passing. We'll always remember the time we spent with your family, and the kindness shown to us by her and Bunny.

May God comfort you during this sad time.

Ann & Steve Weiss (Cecco) - October 28, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JC

“ To the entire family:
On behalf of my entire family, our deepest sympathy and prayer that love will get you through this difficult time.
Sincerely, Jill Charlier (Welty family).

Jill (Welty) Charlier - October 28, 2009 at 12:00 AM