



Elizabeth "Betty" Ann Coleman

September 2, 1929 - July 17, 2020

Betty Coleman, age 90, passed away on July 17, 2020. Betty was born September 2, 1929 in Buffalo Lake Minnesota. She is the daughter of Erving and Josephine (Schnickel) Koopman. Betty and her husband, Dick, lived most of their years in Traverse City on Old Mission Peninsula. They joined the Glen Eagle Retirement Community in 2014. Betty spent the last two months of her life at Bay Ridge Memory Care.

Betty graduated from Buffalo Lake High School, Buffalo Lake, Minnesota, in 1947. She took a position of Nurse Aide at St. Mary's Hospital in Rochester Minnesota. She eventually enrolled in St. Mary's School of Nursing (Mayo Clinic) and became a Registered Nurse. Betty worked as a nurse at St. Mary's Hospital, raised four sons, returned to work as a school nurse in an elementary school in Wisconsin, and finished her working career in 1987 at the Macomb County Health Department. At the end of her life, Betty developed dementia, but listening and caring for others were embedded gifts that never left her.

Betty and Dick were married on May 1, 1954. They enjoyed 66 years of love-filled marriage together. They worked through life's challenges in different ways but in resilient, complementary fashion. Betty deeply loved her husband and her family. She was drawn to the beauty of life in the world around her. Her smile was radiant, she listened to others intently, and she had a warm way with people. She valued education and she will be well-remembered for the beautiful, personalized messages she often wrote to others. She enjoyed nature, golf, tennis and traveling, having seen many of the world's most wondrous places. Toward the end of her life she needed to know that her family was healthy, doing well, and having fun. She told others to drink milk and eat vegetables but she loved her cake, pie, and ice cream.

Betty is preceded in death (by five days) by her husband, Dick; her precious daughter, Mary Elizabeth Coleman; and her sisters-in-law Jane Thomas and Sandi Coleman. Betty is survived by her sons Kevin (Julie), Michael (Michelle), Thomas (Janice), and Daniel (Bridget); beloved grandchildren David, Alan, Carolyn, Sarah, Eric, Matthew, Joseph,

Elizabeth, Lauren, Mary, and Liam; and special family members John and Pam Coleman, James and Lili Coleman, and Thomas Thomas.

Services for Dick and Betty will be held on Friday, July 31st, 2020. A private rosary service will begin at 10:00 a.m. followed by eulogies of Dick and Betty and may be viewed online at rjfh.tv. The family will receive friends from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home (305 Sixth St., Traverse City). A funeral mass will be held immediately afterward at 1 p.m. at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church. Fr. Don Geyman will celebrate the mass. For those unable to attend the mass will be broadcast at sfparish.org beginning at 12:55 p.m.. Follow the Facebook link. Please observe and respect current health and safety guidelines, facemasks will be required. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be directed to the Interlochen Arts Academy or the BrightFocus Foundation Macular Degeneration Fund.

Dick and Betty will be laid to rest at St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery, Old Mission Peninsula, at a later date. Dick will also receive military honors at that time.

Share a memory of Dick and Betty at www.reynolds-jonkhoff.com

Arrangements with the Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home and Cremation Services.

Cemetery

St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery
12675 Center Road
Traverse City, MI, 49686

Events

JUL 31	Visitation for Family and Friends	10:30AM - 12:30PM
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Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home
305 Sixth St, Traverse City, MI, US, 49684

JUL 31	Mass of Christian Burial	01:00PM
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St. Francis Catholic Church
1025 S. Union, Traverse City, MI, US, 49684

Comments



“ Rosary



Rosary - September 02 at 10:34 AM



“ Hello Mike, thank you for calling, and our sympathy is with you and all of Betty's and Dick's family. Sad that we didn't have a closer distance over the years, but enjoyed receiving notes with such good penmanship from Betty! Of course, Betty's Mother and my Mother were sisters, and we would make the long journey, in those days of 90 miles to Hector and Buffalo Lake, with stops at the side of the road in Buffalo Lake to visit! Our last time together was at Jo's funeral in Gaylord, in a very heavy all-day rain. In earlier or later days, we would go to Gaylord to visit and have lunch with Jo. And later when she was in Lafayette north of New Ulm. She was so proud to "show off" her family to all in the home. One year she had a birthday (one of 6-7 in towns from west of Minneapolis to all of southern Minnesota) when we had lunch in New Ulm...Everyone knew her, and loved her...again, she was so proud to introduce us to those at several tables in the restaurant. Time goes on, and all is a part of life. I, and my family, Georgiann, son's Mike and John and daughter Megan. We really will miss Jo and Betty and have continuing thoughts and memories forever. Mike, thank you again...I have now read the obituary 3 or 4 times...very nice. Ray Yung

Ray Yung - August 31 at 11:44 AM



“ Hi Mike and Michelle, we are so sad to see that our two wonderful friends, Betty and Dick, have passed into heaven. We had some pretty good laughing times with them throughout the years. Between Dick and Pat I think all the jokes in the world were told :)
Our prayers and thoughts are with your family. God bless you all. Love and hugs
Nancy Larson & Pat Noland
We are sending a donation to St. Vincent de Paul in their memory

nancy larson - July 31 at 12:05 PM



“ Lovely, thoughtful, compassionate Betty was a delightful Peninsula Library friend and neighbor. She was generous with her love as well as with her garden.
Be at peace, dear Betty.

Julie Maxson

Julie Maxson - July 27 at 04:36 PM



“ We were so sorry to hear of the loss of both your Mother and Father, both called home together. Our family expresses our deepest condolences to the Coleman family.

Barry & Kelli Johnston

Barry Johnston - July 24 at 07:52 AM



“ Betty was such a sweet & caring lady. Her cheerful ways and quick sparkling smile will be remembered. And, so will her lovely renditions in spontaneous song! We are so grateful she was part of my Mom's life at Glen Eagle.

- Lisa Wyatt Knowlton & Tim Knowlton

Lisa Knowlton - July 23 at 10:24 PM