



Evelyn Marie Gensler

October 22, 1926 - July 18, 2018

Maple City - Evelyn Marie Gensler, 91, of Maple City passed away peacefully Wednesday, July 18, 2018 at the home of her daughter.

Evelyn was born on October 22, 1926 to George and Erda (Patton) Czarnecki in Ida, MI. She married Robert Gene Gensler, who preceded her in death.

Evelyn, born to a farmer, was no stranger to hard work. She started working at the age of 14 as a live in maid and cook for Dr. and Mrs. Howe. She had wonderful stories of moving to Northern MI in the summer of 1970 with her husband and 10 children. While building their home Evelyn cooked all their meals, including canning food and making jelly for the winter over an outdoor fire. She also worked at Sara Lee, Sleder's Tavern, and Schmuckal Oil Company. Evelyn's greatest love was her children, but she also enjoyed gardening, baking, cooking, canning, feeding and watching the birds, fishing, and baseball.

Evelyn is survived by her children Susan (Barry) Schweikart of Maple City, MI, Peter Sharp of Pontiac, MI, Michael (Karen) Sharp of Toledo, OH, Steven (Rose) Gensler of Hagerstown, MD, Amy Caldwell, Timothy (Lyn) Gensler, Dustan (Marcia) Gensler, Eric (Angela) Gensler and Kerry Gensler, all of Traverse City, 28 grandchildren, and 40 great grandchildren, She was preceded in death by her husband Robert; a son, Robin Sharp, grandchildren Cassandra Sharp and Christopher and Lindsey Caldwell, her parents, a brother Lester Czarnecki, sisters, Geraldine Neville and Marilyn Czarnecki, and daughter in law Dorothy Gensler.

Evelyn has direct bloodline of 71 descendants, however she was mom and grandma to hundreds of others whose lives she had touched.

Visitation for friends and family will be held from 10 AM until 11 AM Wednesday, July 25, 2018 at The Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home. The service celebrating Evelyn's life will begin at 11 a.m. Pastor Mark Belanger, Chaplain of Munson Hospice will officiate.

Memorial contributions may be directed to Munson Hospice, c/o Munson Healthcare Regional Foundation, 1150 Medical Campus Dr., Traverse City, MI 49684.

Please share your favorite memories of Evelyn with her family by way of her online guest book at www.reynolds-jonkhoff.com.

The family is being served by the Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home and Cremation Services.

Cemetery

Greenbriar Cemetery

Lake Ann, MI, 49650

Events

JUL Visitation 10:00AM - 11:00AM

25

Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home
305 Sixth St, Traverse City, MI, US, 49684

JUL Celebration of Life 11:00AM

25

Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home
305 Sixth St, Traverse City, MI, US, 49684

Comments



“ Family of Evelyn Gensler

Dear Susie and the entire Gensler Family:

It is with deep sadness that I learned of Evelyn's passing. I have known your mother (grandmother, great grandmother) for nearly 50 years and have adored her all that time. It was because of Bob and Evelyn Gensler that my family was able to take root on Long Lake and sustain our home over the many years. After your father Bob passed away, Evelyn became like a family member to us. I and all of my kids came to adore her.

Evelyn Gensler was a very special woman, hardworking, committed, and “salt of the earth” woman who gave birth and raised many children, always working hard on behalf of her family. She represented the best and finest of a dedicated mother who supported her family and raised so many kids at the same time.

Her role in our family was many, from helping to clean, to being a guardian of the house when we weren't there, to babysitting our children with Amy and so many other roles. She became a dear friend of my mother as well, who looked forward to our trips up to Traverse City so she could spend time having coffee and talking about “things” with Evelyn. She rescued several difficult situations for us when we could not be up there and gave us comfort to know that there was always someone there who could help out when we could not be there.

All of her children are part of a wonderful, diverse family of which she was so very proud. I know that the years were not easy for her, but she was so deeply proud of all of you, and took such great pride in sharing with me the stories of your family. While I knew many of you when you were very young children, I have not seen many of you for a long time. I know that she instilled in you her great spirit, character, integrity and hardworking ethic. To my children she was like an aunt or grandmother and her name was used frequently as we talked about Traverse City and our travels up to Long Lake. My children would say, “Can Evelyn come over?” If it were not for your mom/grandmother/great grandmother, we probably could not have been able to maintain our home up there because we were so far away. Because of your mom, a great legacy for our family has prevailed. I wish that I could be there to share this sad time with you. I hope that all of you can rejoice in the great spirit and tradition that she established for your family. I am sure that my father and mother will be quite eager to greet their long-time friend in heaven. I thank all of you for helping to sustain her life for as long as you did.

As Susie knows, I saw Evelyn two weeks ago. We had coffee and cake and talked about things. I shall always remember that last visit.

Please accept my sincere expression of sadness and loss. Perhaps they cannot compare to yours, but I want you to know that I have lost a dear friend of half a century, a trusted ally and a truly wonderful woman.

Joel Saper and the entire Saper Family

Joel Saper - July 25, 2018 at 11:34 AM



“Dusty and family,
So sorry for the loss of your Mother- May our loving God wrap His arms of comfort around all of you. I did not know your Mother, but have only heard what a wonderful woman she was, and she lives in all of you .

Darlene Miller

Darlene Miller - July 24, 2018 at 09:02 PM



“Gary, Linda, Terre, Darla, Laura and families purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Evelyn Marie Gensler.



Gary, Linda, Terre, Darla, Laura and families - July 20, 2018 at 06:00 PM



“Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Evelyn Marie Gensler.



July 20, 2018 at 12:00 PM