



Ilene DeChane

May 5, 1924 - June 19, 2025

Ilene DeChane, age 101, of Bad Axe, passed away on Thursday, June 19, 2025 at her home, surrounded by her family.

Ilene was born on May 5, 1924 in Elkton, MI, daughter of the late Howard and Grace (Morley) Bannick.

She married Gerald Lee DeChane, Sr. on December 15, 1941. He preceded her in death on August 25, 2011.

Ilene was beloved by everyone who knew her for her warmth, kindness, and the twinkle in her eyes. She gave the best hugs and was a most empathetic, nonjudgmental listener. People all over the county remember her pleasant greetings when they shopped at the A&P grocery store, where she worked for 15

years. Later, she and Jerry designed beautiful kitchens together at the business they started, DeChane Cabinet Shop. She loved spending time with family and friends at their little green cottage on the lake, riding her bicycle, singing with her music groups and participating in events at her church, St. Paul's Episcopal. Ilene is perhaps best known, though, for her delicious fruit cakes, pecan pies, bread and cinnamon rolls and pickles!

Ilene is survived by her sister, Lela (Bud) Yageman, brother, Ken (Prudy) Bannick, niece, Janet Yageman, grandsons Michael (Mindy) DeChane and

Dennis (Lisa) DeChane, great grandchildren Owen, Ellie, Madelyn, Nina, Alice and Louis, as well as many other nieces and nephews who all adored her. She was preceded in death by her two sons, Airman First Class Gerald DeChane Jr. and Bruce DeChane, and two brothers, Arlen Bannick and Private First Class Ronald Bannick.

Funeral service will be held on Friday, June 27, 2025 at 11 am at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Bad Axe. Burial will be in Colfax Cemetery. Visitation will be held on Thursday, June 26, 2025 from 2 – 7 pm at the Kaufman Funeral Home in Bad Axe or Friday at the church from 10 am until the service time at 11 am.

In lieu of flowers, please consider doing a random act of kindness for someone less fortunate, or making a donation to Huron County Safe Place.

Cemetery Details

Colfax Township Cemetery

Bad Axe, MI 48413

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN **26**. 2:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Kaufman & Co. Funeral Home, Inc.
84 Westland Dr
Bad Axe, MI 48413
(989) 269-3000
kaufmanfuneralhome@gmail.com

Visitation

JUN **27**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
139 West Huron
Bad Axe, MI

Funeral Service

JUN **27**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
139 West Huron
Bad Axe, MI

Tribute Wall

DI

“ *Heaven gained a beautiful Angel...Sending my condolences.*



Diane - October 13, 2025 at 11:00 PM

JR

“ *I loved Ilene as much as I LOVED anybody. We did so much with Jerry and Ilene. I will never forget all the times we spent with them with our music group in there garage every Sunday and all the times we played music at play dates. I loved the as if they were my parents. They were FANTASTIC. With all our LOVE and PRAYERS. Joe , Lois Remsing and Family. Sure will miss her. I went and seen Ilene last summer when I was back in Michigan last August. I will be thinking of Ilene Thursday.*

Joe and Lois Remsing - June 23, 2025 at 11:10 PM