



Ilene Johnson

December 16, 1929 - January 13, 2021

Ilene Marie (Ruth) Johnson, 91, of Bad Axe, Michigan passed away peacefully at her home, with her family by her side on Wednesday, January 13, 2021. She was born at home on December 16, 1929 in Hume Township near Pinnebog to the late Frank and Margaret Ruth.

Ilene was extremely talented at knitting & crocheting and loved gardening and baking.

Her warm, homemade bread and rolls will be long remembered and missed by her family and friends. As the owner of the Thumb Yarn Shop of Bad Axe, she greatly enjoyed teaching others her love of knitting and crocheting. Many of her family and friends were grateful recipients of the countless afghans and sweaters she beautifully and flawlessly created throughout her lifetime. She will also be fondly remembered, by all who had the pleasure of knowing her, as an always smiling, tireless, hard working woman. Ilene held many careers through-out her lifetime; beginning at Snider's Dairy Bar in Bad Axe at age 16, Huron Medical Care Facility, Bad Axe as a nurses aid and later as a dietician, Cable Manufacturing, Cass City, Hamill Manufacturing, Bad Axe; and as co-owner,(with her husband Dale),of Great Lakes Portable Toilet Rentals, Bad Axe.

She is survived by her husband, Dale Johnson, Bad Axe; son, James Edwards, Shepherd;

daughter, Kay (Todd) Dubey, Ownedale, daughter-in-law, Lorraine Edwards, North Branch; step-daughter, Perri Rendon, Lansing; step-son, Mike Johnson, Dewitt; two brothers: Donald (Theresa) Ruth, of Hemlock, Leo (Dee) Ruth, of Livonia; two sisters, Helen Carpenter, of Kinde and Mary Bivens, of Ironwood; 19 grand-children and 22 great grand-children.

Ilene is preceeded in death by her parents, Frank and Margaret Ruth; two sons, Joseph Edwards, North Branch and infant son, Richard Edwards; one daughter, Diane(Edwards)Forsyth, Bad Axe; five brothers: Francis Ruth, Matt Ruth, Carl Ruth, Earl Ruth, Bernard Ruth; one sister, Jo Ann (Chuck) Wisenbaugh; and one great grand-daughter, Hayden Streiter..

A memorial service for Ilene will be held on Saturday, May 1, 2021 at 11 am at the Kaufman Funeral Home in Bad Axe. Officiating will be Rev. Tim Callow and Ilene's granddaughter Rev. Michelle Forsyth. The family will receive guests for visitation on Saturday from 10 am until the service time at 11 am. at the funeral home.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 1. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

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

Memorial Service

MAY 1. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Kaufman & Co. Funeral Home, Inc.
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Tribute Wall



“ *Ilene Johnson*

January 28, 2023 at 01:32 PM



“ *Sorry for your loss. Will always remember her outside working in her flowers whenever you drove by. She tipped her head up, big smile, and a wave. Wonderful caring neighbor.*

McIntyre family - January 14, 2021 at 08:44 AM



“ *I'm so sorry to hear of the passing of Ms Ilene, what a wonderful woman with a heart of Gold. Thoughts and Prayers to the family in the days to follow.*



Steve and Julie Werner - January 13, 2021 at 09:01 PM



“ *My Mothers longtime friend, what a beautiful and kind woman. I'm sure my Parents are up there in Heaven visiting and reminiscing. My Sincere Condolences go out to Ilenes husband Dale and their Wonderful Family! I pray you find Comfort and Peace in her Passing! Know that she will me missed by many.*



Catherine Sageman-Osantowski - January 13, 2021 at 08:35 PM



Thank you Cathy. ❤️

Kay Dubey - January 13, 2021 at 08:50 PM

RR

“ Rick & Marie Ruth lit a candle in memory of Ilene Johnson



Rick & Marie Ruth - January 13, 2021 at 07:25 PM

AS

“ Heaven received one very sweet beautiful Angel! I'm going to cherish all the great times with her! Thoughts and Prayers to the Family!



Amy Isiah Sageman - January 13, 2021 at 06:36 PM

JS

“ Jan Schulz lit a candle in memory of Ilene Johnson



Jan Schulz - January 13, 2021 at 06:30 PM

JS

Kay and Family, we are very sorry for the loss of your mother. We will keep you in our thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. Jan and Steve

Jan Schulz - January 13, 2021 at 06:32 PM

KD

Thank you Jan & Steve. We appreciate your kindness.

Kay Dubey - January 14, 2021 at 04:29 PM