



Agnes Mangler

November 16, 1914 - December 4, 2017

Agnes Mangler née Ondra, 103, of Charlotte, died Monday, December 4, 2017 in rural Charlotte. Agnes was born November 16, 1914, in Detroit, the daughter of Joseph and Catherine (Lajza) Ondra. Both of her parents were native of Czechoslovakia and raised Agnes with many of the traditional Czech customs. She remained proud through her lifetime of her Czech heritage and her ability to speak the Czech language.

Agnes grew up on the family farm west of Charlotte with her younger siblings Rose and Joe. She attended a one room school in her younger years and graduated from Charlotte High School in 1933. After graduation, she attended County Normal and taught school for three years until her marriage in 1936. Agnes married John Staron, also a native of Czechoslovakia, in Detroit, where their daughters, Suzanne and Kathryn, were born. The family then moved to a farm north of Potterville that is still the family homestead. A son, Joseph, was born in 1946, and was the namesake of Agnes' brother, Joe, who was tragically killed in an airplane crash earlier that year.

Agnes worked alongside her husband on the farm until 1953, when she returned to teaching and pursued her studies to complete her Bachelor's degree at Western Michigan University. In 1956, her husband John passed away, and she continued both teaching and managing the farm. Then in 1958, she married Fred Mangler of rural Millett. Agnes continued her teaching career for 26 years in the Grand Ledge School system until her retirement in

1979. After retirement, Agnes and Fred divided their time between the farm, the cabin at Munro Lake, and their winter home in Zephyrhills, FL. She particularly enjoyed fishing and family gatherings at the lake, and swimming in the pool in Florida. Many happy hours were spent at the table playing cards, board games, or discussing current events with the youngest to oldest of the family clan.

Agnes and Fred were married for 38 years, until his passing in 1996. Agnes' activities outside the home included volunteering at the hospital, working the polls at election time, teaching Bible school, playing in a kitchen band, holding numerous PTA and school board offices, being a lifetime member of the Czechoslovak Society of America, and a member of the Eaton County Chapter of Michigan Association of Retired School Personnel. She was a devout Christian and attended Lutheran churches in Michigan and Florida. Mrs. Mangler was a caring, loving, outgoing person and would befriend everyone she met. Her warmth and strong family values and love kept all five generations of her family dear to each other.

Surviving to keep her memory alive are her daughters, Suzanne (Tom Gray) Steele of Plymouth and Kathryn (Sherwood) Conrad of Charlotte; son, Joseph (Judy Larson) Staron of Traverse City; 8 grandchildren, John (Debbie) Conrad, Jim (Helen) Conrad, Grant (Wendy) Steele, Shawn (Mike) Galliers, Ben (Alex) Staron, Matt (Kris) Staron, Pat (Nicole) Staron and Mike Staron; 12 great-grandchildren, Kayla, John, Chelsey (Ashton), Brandon (Laura), Jacob and Maddie Conrad, Brittany and Courtney Galliers, Gabriel and Samuel Steele, and Charlotte and Annabelle Staron; 2 great-great-grandchildren, Hunter and Adalynn Wood; her niece Sally (Bob) Dunbar and their family, Stacy (Neal) Leslie, Kristin (Chris) Marshall, Lacey, Andy and Ben. She was predeceased by two husbands, John Staron and Fred Mangler; her parents; her siblings; and her daughter-in-law, Robin Staron.

A Memorial Service will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 9, 2017 at First Lutheran Church, Charlotte, with Pastor Tim Olson officiating.

Visitation will be the same day from 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. at the church, just prior to the service. If desired, the family suggests memorial contributions to the Potterville Food Pantry. Friends and family are encouraged to share memories of Agnes on her Tribute Page at www.PrayFuneral.com. The family is in the care of Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte.

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 9. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

First Lutheran Church
550 E. Shepherd St.
Charlotte, MI 48813

Funeral Ceremony

DEC 9. 1:00 PM (ET)

First Lutheran Church
550 E. Shepherd St.
Charlotte, MI 48813

Tribute Wall

DP

“*Mrs. Mangler was my Kindergarten, First, and Second grade teacher at Zachariah School on Millet Hwy. She was always my favorite teacher. She honored me with her presence at my wedding in 1970. I enjoyed visiting her at her home outside Potterville and her home in Zepherhills, Florida. She was such a beautiful lady and a great influence in my life. It was an honor for me to attend her 100th birthday celebration several years ago. My thought and prayers are with your family as you celebrate her life.*

Dorothy Dibeau Pfister

Dorothy Dibeau Pfister - December 09, 2017 at 03:31 PM

WS

“*We will be thinking of all of you there at Agnes's service. She will be missed. What a wonderful lady. The boys and I send our love and are so sorry for your loss. Grant will represent us tomorrow. xoxo. Wendy, Gabriel and Samuel Steele*

Wendy Steele - December 08, 2017 at 09:03 PM