





Donna Jean Wood

September 12, 1919 - June 23, 2009

Donna (Swift) Wood passed away on June 23, 2009 in Hastings, MI at the age of 89. She was born on September 12, 1919 in Kalamo Township, Eaton County, MI. She always lived in the Charlotte area until 2004 when she moved to Hastings to be closer to her daughters and entered an AFC Home. If you met Donna, you didn't forget her, she was a wonderful woman, friend, mother, grandmother and aunt. On June 6, 1943 she married the love of her life James Wood, enjoying 46 wonderful years together, before he passed away in 1989. Donna was pregnant with the seventh child when Jim was stricken with polio and was completely paralyzed from the neck down. After being in the hospital for 17 months Jim was sent home with an iron lung, rocking bed and all kinds of life saving equipment that Donna had to not only learn to use, but to also take care of. Together they started a business of Jim having the talent of painting by mouth-stick, and Donna having the patience to dip his brushes and hold the paintings. These were reproduced into note cards that were sold all over the United States and many other countries. Donna took total care of Jim for 32 years, they were each other's lives. Donna was greeted at heavens gate by her husband, Jim, her granddaughter Mary Nichols, son-in-laws, Chuck Adams, Robert Jones; her parents, Rue and Hortense Swift; sister, Ilah Sellen, Norma Gaut, Vera Ramsey and Sylvia Craun; brothers, Lyle, Wayne, Clayton and Burton Swift. She is survived by her daughters, Nancy Adams of Hastings, and Sarah (Harold) Nichols of Middleville; sons, Robert (Sandy) of Potterville, Norman (Jackie) of

Dimondale, Wilmott (Deborah) of Grand Ledge, Edgar of Fennville and John (Nicole) of Grand Ledge; 14 grandchildren and 8 great grand children; sister, Rosemary Perkins of Kalamo and many nieces and nephews. Donna was a member of the Charlotte Congregational Church for almost 70 years, a member of the Mary Martha Circle. She was Eaton Co. homemaker of the year in 1990, enjoyed participating in the Senior Companion Program, Extension Club and Eastern Star. She loved to garden and her yard was full of beautiful flowers, and a large vegetable garden, she was a wonderful cook and was known for her wonderful pies. Funeral services will be 1:00 p.m Saturday, June 27, 2009 at Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte, with David Roper officiating. Interment will be in Maple Hill Cemetery, Charlotte, MI. Visitation will be Friday 2  4 and 6  8 pm at Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte. In her memory Donna would love for you to give to the charity of your choice.

Tribute Wall



“ Dear Family of Donna Wood, Thinking of you at this time.

March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM



“ For the family of Donna and Jim Wood, May God comfort you with good memories and friends near during this time of grief. My memory is of Mr. Wood painting the cards with the brush in his teeth as Mrs. Wood aided him. I was with my father Jarvis Wotring, an English teacher, as we paid a call on the family. I was still quite young. I was awed by this skill, and the partnership to create work. It humbled me, as I began to learn to draw and paint, later to design. This memory challenged me to use God's gifts the best we can. I am grateful for their gift of strength and courage. Heartfelt thanks, Cessily

Cessily Wotring Thalacker - July 08, 2009 at 06:01 AM



“ Sara Wood and Family Sorry to hear of your lost. Your mother was kind, loving, friendly, easy to talk to. She will be greatly missed. I remember when I had stayed over, your mother made bean soup (thicken). I had never had it that way before. I recall how we exchange ways of making bean soup and the different ways people ate it. Me myself I like mine with corn bread and maple syrup. Or bean soup with a little sugar and vinegar! Your in my prayers.

Agnes Robertson (Merchant) - June 29, 2009 at 12:27 PM

SS

“ Sara and Nancy, I am so sorry about your mom. But now she is with your dad, which we all know must make her truly happy. You know our family loved your parents like our own, and they were grandma and grandpa to our kids. I just found out about her passing and my health keeps me from being there for the funeral. my thoughts and prayers will be with you all. all my love and may God bless you.
Sherrie Silvas

Sherrie Silvas - June 27, 2009 at 11:59 AM

GB

“ To The Wood Families Donna was a very special lady, one that will always be remembered. We are sorry we aren't able to attend the viewing or service. Our thoughts are with you all.

Garry and Barb Bruce - June 26, 2009 at 10:49 AM

JS

“ Donna was such a joyful, pleasant, and caring person. Always enjoyed visiting with Jim and Donna on my trips home. Last saw her and Nancy at my dad's memorial service last May, and enjoyed so much our short visit. Have much sorrow for you kids at the loss of your mother. You all will miss her very much I am sure but she is totally happy now being with Jim in heaven. May God bless you all in your time of sorrow.

Jack W. Smith - June 26, 2009 at 05:24 AM

WC

“ Dear family, I'm so sorry for your loss. I enjoyed using Jim's painted cards but didn't know Donna's part in the production. I stopped in a few times to see Jim and I know that Donna was a wonderful caregiver for him. She was quite a lady. God Bless Jim, Donna and the whole family.

Wilma Campbell - June 26, 2009 at 03:16 AM