



Gertrude Barbara Rapson

November 24, 1920 - June 23, 2017

Gertrude Barbara Rapson, 96, passed away at home on June 23, 2017, in Eaton Rapids, Michigan, surrounded by her children, and loved ones. She was born on November 24, 1920, to Leo and Rosa (Mahl) Kanzler, in Marstone, Michigan. Gertrude married Chester F. Rapson in 1940, and together they raised nine children. , Rose-Ann (Patrick) LaJoice of Eaton Rapids, George (Gloria) Rapson of Alabama, John (Betty) Rapson of Georgia, Gary (Susan) Rapson of Oklahoma, Mary (Robert) Squires of Eaton Rapids, Darlene (David) Taylor of Charlotte, Leo (Connie) Rapson of Mackinaw City, Lorraine (Marty Izzard) Rapson of Sault Ste. Marie. She also left 28 grandchildren; 37 great-grandchildren, and five great-great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Rapson enjoyed hunting, fishing, and spending time in the outdoors of the Upper Peninsula. She explored back roads and woods, and especially enjoyed visiting family and friends. She loved spending time in the kitchen, and was a gracious hostess, serving meals to any guests who stopped by. Gertrude was an avid reader, and enjoyed crocheting, gifting many afghans to family and friends.

Gertrude was a Blue Star Mother during the Vietnam War, and a life member of the VFW Auxiliary. She volunteered many hours through St. Joseph Church Thrift Shop, in Sault Ste. Marie.

Gertrude was preceded in death by her husband, Chester; her parents; daughter, Teresa Semasky; two brothers John and Norbert Kanzler; and sister, Dorothy Peake, and great granddaughter Violet Squires.

A Funeral Mass, celebrating Gertrude's life, will be held at St. Mary Church, in Charlotte, on Monday, June 26, 2017, at 4:00 p.m., with Rev. Fr. Dwight Ezop officiating. A graveside service will be held in Trout Lake Township Cemetery at a later date.

The family would like to thank Hospice of Lansing for the care they gave Gertrude. In Lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorial gifts, in Gertrude's name, to Hospice of Lansing. Friends and family are encouraged to share memories of Gertrude on her Tribute Page at www.PrayFuneral.com. The family is in the care of Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte.

Previous Events

Funeral Mass

JUN **26**. 4:00 PM (ET)

St. Mary Catholic Church
807 St. Mary Boulevard
Charlotte, MI 48813

Tribute Wall

IS

“ *The Semasky Family would like to send their sincerest condolences to the family of Gertrude Rapson. She was a wonderful person with the biggest heart. She was an angel here on Earth and is now in God's hands.*

Irene Semasky - June 29, 2017 at 08:40 AM



Michael Wood

“ *To a beautiful lady. A woman who loved me as her son and who gave me a brother. God Bless!*

Love ya Ms. Gertrude Rapson ❤️



Michael Wood - June 25, 2017 at 08:29 PM



“ *Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Gertrude Barbara Rapson.*



June 25, 2017 at 07:48 PM

Sarah Wood

“ *Our deepest condolences! May God bring peace during this time of grievance & honoring her life; Gertrude was an amazing woman!* 🌻
🌿

Sarah Wood - June 24, 2017 at 10:45 PM

JS

“ *Peace be with her soul and the entire family.*

Jim and Jan Squires - June 24, 2017 at 06:23 PM

CD

Sorry for your loss Toby and family. May she Rest in Peace. 😊

Cathy and Dave - June 24, 2017 at 09:15 PM

DC

DEar Grandma Gertie. It was so nice to know you. . Im so sorry to the Rapson family. God Bless you All...

Debbie Chase - June 24, 2017 at 09:35 PM

TB

The most special person Gertrude Rapson. She spent a lot of time with the Kanzler family in Georgia. We loved her so much.

Terrie Braswell - June 26, 2017 at 05:22 PM

BJ

Thank you Mary for your letter . Chuck and I will miss her wonderful letter writing , it was a true joy for Chuck and I to have continued conversation with her long after our meeting at the N.H. her love for her family made for happy letters and enjoyable reading . Please take care all of you . You all were her treasure . I saw her as a loving daughter mom and friend . But may God bless you who walked with her in times of suffering and pain .

Bertha Jonckheere - July 24, 2017 at 10:54 PM