



Mrs. Pearl Nicholas Gifford

December 15, 1915 - December 13, 2014

Pearl Gifford passed away on Saturday, December 13, two days before her 99th birthday. Born to Greek immigrants, Theodore and Annetta Nicholas, Pearl lived a long, and full, life. One of eight children, she grew up immersed in Greek culture, and in the family business that included ice cream parlors and coffee shops. A child of the Depression and two World Wars, Pearl worked hard from a very early age; her poignant experiences formed deep-seated understandings that she wisely imparted to the next generations. She often boasted of the many firsts she witnessed...from airplanes to television to chocolate chip cookies!

In 1945, she married Clarence Gifford, an automobile dealer in Johnstown, NY. During her many loving years with "Giff", Pearl became an active member of the community, tirelessly volunteering for the PTA, the Johnstown Hospital and the First United Methodist Church. She was a member of the New York State Home Bureau. Golf became a favorite pastime and Pearl was a regular at the Country Clubs to which she and Giff belonged well into her nineties. In later years, Pearl spent winters in Florida, returning to the family camp on her beloved Caroga Lake, NY each summer. When living alone became a challenge, Pearl relocated to Glenwood Springs, CO to live with family and grew to love the mountains.

Pearl will be remembered for her outgoing personality, strong will and perseverance as well as her great passion for family and friends. Until her very last week, Pearl held a penchant for current events which she avidly followed in the newspaper and on TV. She would often lament about the world order and declare that she was "glad that she was at the other end" of it all!

Mrs. Gifford is survived by: daughters Denise Acee (Ron) and Patricia Valachovic; grandchildren, Erin Donovan (Brent), Lisa Pickett, and Anthony Valachovic (Krista); great-grandchildren Clare and Max Donovan, Alyssa and Michael Pickett, Andrew Valachovic, and Colin and Connor Tull; a sister, Elayne Dageenakis (John) and a large extended family.

A private interment will be scheduled in Ferndale Cemetery, Johnstown NY at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to The First United Methodist Church or The Valley View Hospital Heart and Vascular Center in Glenwood Springs, Colorado. Arrangements have been entrusted to the Ehle and Barnett FFH, LLC, 15 N. William St., Johnstown , NY 12095. Please sign the family's guestbook at www.ebfffh.com.

Cemetery

Ferndale Cemetery

NY,

Comments



“ Richard Weaver(russells Giffords Son) sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Pearl Nicholas Gifford



Richard Weaver(russells giffords son) - December 19, 2014 at 06:11 PM



“ although we have never met, We knew your dad(russells brother),, Richard and I send you our deepest sympathy.

Richard Weaver(russells giffords son) - December 19, 2014 at 06:12 PM



“ Pigs

monkey Adams - February 13, 2016 at 01:14 AM



“ Valerie Scribner lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Pearl Nicholas Gifford



Valerie Scribner - December 18, 2014 at 03:54 PM



“ Oh, my dear sweet Pearl! So saddened by this news, and I know you are reunited with your "Giff"....I have missed you for a long, long time. Condolences and deepest sympathy to Denise, Pat and your family. I will never forget you and all the stories and laughs that we shared. Rest in peace dear friend!

Valerie Scribner - December 18, 2014 at 04:00 PM



“ Denise, My thoughts are with you - moms are real losses!

debbie Fulmer - January 01, 2015 at 10:33 PM



“ Dear Pat, Denise, & extended families,
I was saddened to see the beautiful picture & loving tribute of your mom in the Leader online. She certainly was blessed with a long & fruitful life, as were YOU blessed by having her with you for so long. To think she was still keeping up with the world events, right up until her death....You will miss her, but can believe that she is now with her loving Savior, enjoying the rewards of a life well-lived. What better birthday gift?! My thoughts are with you all.

Fondly,
Norma Jean (Clark)

Norma Jean Clark - December 18, 2014 at 12:55 PM