



## Ruth Hayes

April 16, 1921 - May 5, 2013

RUTH HAYES NORWAY- Ruth Hayes age 92 of Norway, died Sunday, May 5, 2013 at Freeman Nursing and Rehabilitation in Kingsford, MI. She was born in Detroit on April 16, 1921 the daughter of the late Edward and Pearl (Miller) Forbes. She graduated from Harper Hospital School of Nursing. Ruth married Willard N. Hayes, MD on August 9, 1943 in Detroit. He preceded her in death on April 20, 1982. After Ruth and Willard got married they loaded up a car and trailer and proceeded to travel the country side looking for a place to live. After touring the country they chose Norway. Ruth attended Grace United Methodist Church in Norway for over 55 years; she taught Sunday School for over 50 years, she was in the choir and Wesleyan Service Guild. Involved actively in 4H for many years as a 4H leader and taught cooking, sewing, and supported members of the Horse and Beef clubs. She spent her life serving others; her home was an open door for many children, and adults of Norway. Her station wagon usually filled taking people someplace. Ruth was active in Big Brothers/Big Sisters as a "Big" and on the Board of Directors. Along with her friend Nada Larson taught sewing in special needs school for over 20 years. She loved music, starting in High School earning many honors playing her viola in Detroit All City Orchestra, Wayne All County Orchestra and selected for the All American Orchestra. Ruth was a member of the Iron Mountain Music Club, played in the orchestra for several community theater productions and sang for many years in the Dickinson Co. Community Chorus. Throughout her life she received many honors in the community, and was

chosen as Dickinson County Representative during the Michigan Sesquicentennial as unsung women honored by the Governors wife. Ruth is survived by her children Penny Lambert, Margaret "Peggy" Hayes, Dr. Paul (Donna) Hayes, Peter Hayes, Kathleen (Dennis) Bal and Foster Daughter Delia Chippewa; grandchildren Joseph (Mickey Parker) Lambert, David Hayes, Forrest (Kelly) Hayes, Benjamin (Christine) Hayes, Zachariah, and Magdalene Hayes, Sarah (Mike) Eversole, Rebecca (Sean) Bailey, Phillip, William and Matthew Bal; 26 great grandchildren; sister Virginia (Cliff) Haycock. Her family invites everyone to attend a committal service to be held on Thursday, May 9 at 11:30 a.m. at the Norway Township Cemetery. Family will greet friends on Thursday from 1-3 p.m. at the Grace United Methodist Church in Norway. Funeral Services will be held at 3 p.m. at Grace United Methodist Church with Pastor Irene White presiding.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Jodi Carlson lit a candle in memory of Ruth Hayes*



---

**Jodi Carlson** - January 23, 2024 at 06:17 PM



“ *Jodi Carlson lit a candle in memory of Ruth Hayes*



---

**Jodi Carlson** - January 23, 2024 at 06:17 PM



“ *I don't even know where to start. Mrs Hayes took me in when I was a scared confused 18 year old kid. Her kindness was overwhelming. I know I wasn't always easy to have around and I am sorry 🙏*

---

**Jodi Carlson** - January 23, 2024 at 06:16 PM



“ *Penny- my thoughts and prayers are with you. It is never easy to lose a parent - no matter how old we are. Take care.*

---

**Mary Gagala** - January 30, 2015 at 12:00 AM

PS

“ Our thoughts and prayers go out to your entire family as you all transition to life without Ruth. Ruth was a person who was a huge inspiration to many people and had a positive impact on many people's lives, including ours. This Bible verse, "Do nothing from selfishness or conceit, but in humility count others better than yourselves (Philippians 2:3), accurately reflects Ruth's philosophy of life in my opinion. Ruth was one of the best examples of a person who was humble and had a sincere heart to serve the Lord and others. I (Mona) had so many fond memories that I will always cherish of spending time at the Hayes house and the farm with Kathy and the "Hayes gang". There was no other place I wanted to be than there! I am so very thankful that your family was so generous and willing to share their horses and home with so many of us. Some of my best memories of Ruth are riding in her station wagon and she was always humming a tune, having Sunday nights at the house watching Walt Disney and having Ruth's "smorgasbord", my personal favorites pizza, hot dogs, and ice cream, and in her 4-H sewing club (but rather than really sew, playing hide and seek and tag in the basement). Ruth volunteered in the special education class where I taught with her dear friend Nada. Those women came for over 20 some years. That's dedication! We shared lots of laughs and both of those dear women taught me more life lessons than they ever knew. Whenever I would compliment them or shared how they positively impacted my life as well as so many others' lives, they would dismiss it and change the topic. For me, Ruth was a mentor. She was generous, kind, sweet, and loving. She had an easy going nature and once in awhile I did go too far and "ruffled her feathers". She was smart and witty with a good sense of humor. She shared her perspectives on life and the love of Jesus. She was my Sunday School teacher for many years when I was a child and when I was an adult and moved back to the area and rejoined the Methodist Church, I became her assistant. I am thankful to have known Ruth and the family and consider it all joy! I am grateful she knew the Lord and that she now is in Glory! She's released from her bondage and I picture her in Heaven, rejoining all her loved ones and in a station wagon, covering miles

*and humming! My love to the family!*

---

**Patrick and Mona Servia** - January 30, 2015 at 12:00 AM

HM

“ *I will always remember Ruth for her kindness, and what she gave to her community. I was a member of her sewing 4H group and we looked forward to attending weekly. I was her neighbor and spent time with her through Big Brothers Big Sisters. She was a great woman. Her family must have been very proud of her and I know they will miss her. As everyone who knew her will.*

---

**Holly McCarthy-Biolo** - January 30, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DW

“ *What a kind,compassionate lady she was.I'll always remember her picking us up in her station wagon and brought us up to the farm.She tried teaching me how to sew.I remember the haunted house in the basement at Halloween,so many childhood memories accociated with her.My prayers are with you family.*

---

**Donna Helmer Wickman** - January 30, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KB

“ *Mrs. Hayes was a wonderful woman. She will be missed. Your family is in my family's thought and prayers as you go through this difficult time.*

---

**Karen (Giuliani) Bishop** - January 30, 2015 at 12:00 AM

BC

“ *Our Deepest sympathy at the lost of your mother. She was a very sweet person. Bruce enjoyed going to her place trimming the horses and talking with her.*

---

**Bruce and Susan Casagrande** - January 30, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KZ

“ I am deeply sadden when I heard of the death of your mother I rember the years growing up and spending time with your family at your home and at the farm. Your family will be in my prayers and thoughts

---

**Kim Zimmerman** - January 30, 2015 at 12:00 AM