

Knopp, Margaret Eleanor

Margaret Eleanor Knopp passed from death to eternal life on Nov. 11, 2011, in Green Bay, Wis.

Margaret was born on Dec. 8, 1913, in Ironwood, Mich., to the late John and Mary (Dulove) Toth. At age 18, she found work at Schroeder's Restaurant in Manitowish Waters, where Frank Knopp was a customer. He immediately noticed this attractive, dark-eyed waitress with a ready smile, who loved waiting tables wearing high heels. They married Dec. 30, 1935, and lovingly committed to that Christian union for 51 1/2 years, until Frank's death.

Margaret loved their home that Frank, a carpenter by trade, built for them on beautiful Spider Lake in Manitowish Waters. He also built two cottages which they rented out every summer, and in which Margaret took great pride in keeping in perfect order. They named their place Birch Cove, and it soon became a peaceful haven to their many guests, who would return year after year, often becoming lifelong friends because of Margaret and Frank's genuine and endearing hospitality.

Many a dinner was interrupted in the summer when former guests would stop by to say hello. Margaret and Frank never once complained about the cold meal that followed.

Margaret was always very proud of the many homes Frank built in and around Manitowish Waters. They cherished their many friends and their life together in the north woods.

Margaret was a skilled crafter who made many beautiful things, especially keepsake Christmas tree skirts and ornaments, and her expertly embroidered dish towels that she made for all of her family and a few select friends, as well as for her church bazaars. She was a member of Our Lady Queen of Peace donut-making team for many years, helping to raise money to retire the church debt. She and Frank earned the Superior Diocese Pastoral Award for their years of work making and rolling bandages for the Mission's leper hospitals. Margaret also converted men's shirts into hospital gowns for the Missions. Both were selfless works of love, done for others.

In Jan. of 2006, Margaret moved to a community-based residential facility in Green Bay to be closer to her children.

She never lost that twinkle in her eyes or her award-winning smile (and she still loved those high heel shoes, well into her nineties).

Margaret is survived by one son, Richard (Audrey) Knopp, Oshkosh, Wis., and one daughter, Mary Margaret (Ernest) Scheld, Green Bay, Wis.; four grandchildren: Susan (Richard) Halverson, Mark (Carmel) Scheld, Green Bay, Wis.; Leslie Scheld (Sarah Frey), La Crosse, Wis.; Keith Knopp, Oniro, Wis.; and Thomas's wife, Laurie Scheld, Green Bay, Wis. She is further survived by one brother, Donald Toth, Milwaukee, Wis.; sister-in-law, Helen Toth, Cayucos, Calif.; nine great-grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews.

Besides her parents, she was preceded in death by one grandson, Thomas Scheld, one great-grandchild, Aniah Lewis-Beyer, two sisters, Louise Radzik and Mary Paul; brothers: John Toth, Frank Toth, Clarence Toth and Vincent Toth; sisters-in-law, Aggie Toth, Mary Toth and Marie Beyer; and brothers-in-law, Julius Radzik, Louis Paul and Frank Beyer.

Friends may call at Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic church, Manitowish Waters, Wis., on Monday after 10:30 a.m. until time of Mass. Funeral Mass 11:30 a.m. Monday at the church with Fr. Lourdu Mandapuri and Deacon Bill Burkel officiating. Burial in Pine Lawn Cemetery, Manitowish Waters.

Online condolences may be sent to the Knopp family at www.prozowall.com.

Margaret's family would like to extend their sincere appreciation to the staff of Century Ridge and the nurses and staff of Unity Hospice. The care and compassion shown to Margaret and her family will always be remembered.

Obituary for Margaret Eleanor Knopp, 1913-2011



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