



Mary Catherine (Ahart) Iden

June 6, 2014

Mary Catherine (Ahart) Iden, 87, of Columbia Heights, MN made her peaceful journey home on Friday, June 6, 2014 after a faith-filled life surrounded by the love of her family. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11:00 AM Thursday, June 12, 2014 at Church of St. Paul, 1740 Bunker Lake Blvd NE, Ham Lake, MN with visitation one hour prior. An Irish Catholic wake will be held from 5:00-8:00 PM Wednesday, June 11, 2014 at Washburn-McReavy Columbia Heights Chapel, 4101 Central Ave. NE with prayer service from 7:00 – 8:00 PM. A graveside service and burial will follow in Dow City, IA on Friday, June 13, 2014 at 1:00 PM, arrangements in the care of Huebner Funeral Home in Denison, IA.

Mary C. Iden was born on October 10, 1926 to Joseph Leo Ahart and Anna Marie (Judge) Ahart. Growing up in Dow City, IA, during the Great Depression – Mary learned the values of hard work, diligence, strength, family and faith alongside her 8 siblings J. Leo Jr., James, Thomas, Gregory, Joan, Emmett (Mike), Vince, and Richard. Mary graduated from Dow City High School in 1946 and pursued her life's calling of caring for others which she did selflessly and beautifully. She graduated from St. Joseph's Nursing Program at Creighton University in 1949 and began her professional career as a loving nurse of newborns at St. Joseph's Hospital in Omaha, NE. The "newborn" bug followed Mary as she and Norman L. Iden shared 28 years of marriage, from 1952-1980, and bestowed the greatest of her gifts upon 7 children – her unconditional love, her unending pride and her love for God.

Mary began raising her first 5 treasures in Iowa Falls, IA, before moving to Brookings, SD in 1965 where she spent more than 35 years dedicated to faith, family, friends and community. While in Brookings, and in between gracefully raising her 7 beloved children, she was an active community volunteer and lent her many talents to her much-loved parish of St. Thomas More Catholic Church. She would often say that the Church provided her far more than she could ever give in return. For the past 17 years she has shared her breathtaking personality with those around her in Columbia Heights, MN, including her dear friends and staff at Royce Place and Crestview and her faith family at Church of St. Paul Catholic Parish in Ham Lake, MN. Her immeasurable Faith sustained her every moment and into her eternal life. “Gorgeous” – as her only son, Greg, referred to her as – was an avid gardener, cook, baker and extraordinary individual. She spent most of her life dedicated to her children and grandchildren, always placing her own needs far behind those around her. Mary’s compassion was apparent to all who crossed her inspiring path. She will be remembered for her grace, tenderness, thoughtfulness, daily gratitude and immense love for her family.

Mary is survived by her children, Denise Iden of Fridley, MN, Michelle Rowe of Rapid City, SD, Greg (Mary) Iden of Lino Lakes, MN, Colette (Paul) Thompson of Ft. Collins, CO, Paulette (James) Kostick of Ham Lake, MN, Rochelle (John) Pouliot of Medway, MA, and Renée (Ryan) Miller of Pleasant Hill, IA; 15 grandchildren – Danielle Van Peurse, Tiffany Iden, Cassel Iden, Jocelyn Thompson, Nicole Thompson, Sarah, Michael, Nicholas, Teresa, John, Rachel, David, and Catherine Kostick, Spencer Pouliot, and Emerson Miller; and 4 siblings – Thomas Ahart, Joan (Robert) Logue, Vince (Phyllis) Ahart and Richard (Bettie) Ahart and sisters-in-law, Rita Ahart and Ruth Ahart. She is preceded in death by her parents J. Leo Sr. and Anna Ahart; siblings J. Leo Jr. and his wife Dorothy, James and his wife Hazel, Gregory, and Emmett (Mike); son-in-law Thomas “Jack” Schuler, and twin grandsons Cooper and Carter Miller.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to Human Life Alliance in Blaine,

MN or Catholic Eldercare in Minneapolis, MN.

Tribute Wall

DH

“ *Heaven is very lucky, they have just gained an angel. May her star shine brightly on her family and friends. Mary was a wonderful person!*

Doreen Knutson Hemish

Doreen Hemish - June 13, 2014 at 02:23 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mary Catherine (Ahart) Iden.*



June 10, 2014 at 06:37 PM



“ *Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Mary Catherine (Ahart) Iden.*



June 10, 2014 at 04:43 PM

FW

“ To the Iden Family---I am so sorry for the loss of your mother. She was a kind and gentle person as I remember from my school years. You were so blessed to have as your mother. As children, you have paid a high tribute to you mother. May the perpetual light shine on her.



Francella Meyer Wookey

Fran Wookey - June 10, 2014 at 04:37 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Mary Catherine (Ahart) Iden.



June 10, 2014 at 03:17 PM

MR

“ *Michelle Rowe lit a candle in memory of Mary Catherine (Ahart) Iden*



Michelle Rowe - June 10, 2014 at 08:44 AM

AR

“ *Your mother was truly a wonderful lady. She did so much good in a very quiet way. There are fond memories of good times at your home on 9th Street in a Brookings. Our thoughts and prayers are with your family.*
Your friends,
Alfred and Deanna Rude



Alfred Rude - June 09, 2014 at 08:03 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mary Catherine (Ahart) Iden.*



June 09, 2014 at 07:44 PM

LJ

“ *God's blessings to the Iden family for the Herold family. Your mom was a special woman. So glad to have been a part of her life. You have our deepest sympathy. Hugs and prayers to all of you!*

Lori Jager - June 09, 2014 at 07:41 PM

JM

“ *To the Iden Family,*
We remember your mom in Brookings with a smile and kindness. We loved doing activities with all of you. Your mom was a gem!!!
The Martin Family of Brookings...Tom, Judy, Suzanne, Jane, Laura, Patrick, Joe and Michael

Judy Martin - June 09, 2014 at 02:23 PM



“ *Summer's Light Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mary Catherine (Ahart) Iden.*



June 08, 2014 at 08:12 PM