



Belva Ann Rutledge

October 5, 1930 - August 8, 2021

Belva Ann Rutledge, age 90, of Pickford, Michigan, died Sunday, August 8, 2021, in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan. She was born October 5, 1930, in Pickford, to Russell William and Reta Mae (Harrison) Cottle.

Belva was a lifelong Pickford resident. She attended Cowell School west of Pickford through eighth grade and then Pickford Schools, graduating in 1949. Upon returning from her senior trip, she worked on Mackinac Island. On August 9, 1950, she married Jim Rutledge, the love of her life, whom she had met while in high school and who had proposed to her before a dance. They were married just one day short of 71 years. They made their home in Pickford and raised four children. For twenty-six years, they traveled to the Rio Grande Valley to live for the winter months. In other travels, they visited all the Canadian Provinces and Alaska.

Belva was a member of the Pickford United Methodist Church and served as Marquette Township Treasurer for many years. She and Jim were members of the Suzie Q's Square Dance Club in both Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan and Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario. She was also a 4-H Leader.

Belva enjoyed hunting and loved time spent at the family deer camp including cooking on the woodstove there. She loved to dance, especially square dancing. She was very active and in addition to traveling and dancing, she

also enjoyed golfing, cooking and baking, quilting, sewing, knitting, and Swedish weaving. The baby sweaters she knit for her grandchildren are treasured.

Belva is survived by her husband, James “Jim” Robert Rutledge; sons, Gary (Janet) Rutledge of Ankeny, Iowa, Ron (Margaret) Rutledge of Pickford, and Roger Rutledge of Pickford; daughter, Leanne (Steve) Storey of Pickford; grandchildren, Michelle Rutledge (Arlon Goforth), Kurt (Kirsten) Rutledge, Eric (Bri) Rutledge, Traci Rutledge (Nate Hynum), Jason (Kaye) Rutledge, Scott (Annie) Rutledge, Nikki Storey, David (Emily) Slater, Leslie (Curt) Bohn, and Will (Shawna) Storey; great grandchildren, Akayla (Jackson) Trumper, Alivia Salazar (Kaleb Ackerman), Aidan Richardson, Alek Richardson, Izzy Goforth, Allison Rutledge, Kameron Rutledge, Eleanor Rutledge, Jameson Rutledge, Harrison Rutledge, Owen Rutledge, Henrik Rutledge, Leyton Rutledge, Dakota (Amanda) Swinton, Skylar (Duncan) Lowrey, Jason Rutledge, Cody Campbell, Reyanna Rutledge, Levi VanLuvan, Tucker Rutledge, Elizabeth VanLuvan, Lilian VanLuvan, Rylee Rutledge, Mackenzie LaPorta, Christopher Vagts, Blaine Vagts, Aidric Bohn, Ellis Bohn, Ariel Storey, Elliette Slater, Reagan Slater, and Lucas Storey; and great great grandchildren, Kolton Ackerman, Eli Swinton, Evelyn Lowery, and Jordy Morningstar. Also surviving are her brother, John (Sandra) Cottle of Bonne Terre, Missouri; sisters-in-law, Arla Jean Wilson, Marge Schmitigal, and Glenda Brown all of Pickford; and brothers-in-law, Glenn Atkins of Barbeau, Michigan, and Bill (Suzie) Rutledge of Hessel, Michigan.

She was preceded in death by her brothers, Elliot (Elda) Cottle, Alex (Delores) Cottle; sisters-in-law, Mary Lynn (Vern) Huyck and Laretta Atkins; brothers-in-law, Jack (Betty) Rutledge, Reg Wilson, Stanley Schmitigal, and Duane Brown; and great great granddaughter, Amara Lynn.

Services will be held Thursday, August 12, at Galer Funeral Homes & Cremation, 24549 S. M-129, in Pickford. Visitation will be held from 12:00 Noon until 2:00 PM with the funeral service to follow at 2:00 PM.

Burial will be in Cottle Cemetery, Marquette Township, in Pickford.

Memorial contributions may be made to Pickford United Methodist Church, PO Box 128, Pickford MI 49774 or Northwoods Christian Camp, 1574 E Northwoods Rd., Pickford, MI 49774.

Cemetery Details

Cottle Cemetery

5431 E Townline Road
Pickford, MI 49774

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 12. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Galer Funeral Homes & Cremation
24549 S. M-129
Pickford, MI 49774

Funeral Service

AUG 12. 2:00 PM (ET)

Galer Funeral Homes & Cremation
24549 S. M-129
Pickford, MI 49774

Tribute Wall



“ *Belva Ann Rutledge*

October 05, 2023 at 09:54 AM



“ *Belva Ann Rutledge*

October 02, 2023 at 10:14 PM



“ *Belva Ann Rutledge*

September 01, 2022 at 07:49 PM



Beverly
O'Hare

“ *Prayers to the Rutledge family . Many memories of your Mom as neighbors and church. Thinking of you all. 🙏❤️*

Beverly O'Hare - August 11, 2021 at 11:54 PM



“ *Sorry to hear of Belva passing. Sending sympathy and prayers to family and friends*

Frances Wood - August 11, 2021 at 10:08 PM



“ *Aunt Belva was a wonderful happy woman who knew how to throw a great party. She will be missed but never forgotten.*

Mickie Cottle - August 11, 2021 at 12:16 AM

FE

“ *Condolences to the extended Rutledge family. May all your fond memories comfort you now and in the future.*

Fern - August 10, 2021 at 11:02 PM

MA

“ *Janet, Gary and family. Know that our prayers are with you and your family at this time. Our sincere sympathy, Pete Rabine and Marlene Thornton*

MarleneThornton - August 10, 2021 at 02:43 PM



“ *Heavenly Heights Bouquet was purchased for the family of Belva Ann Rutledge.*



August 10, 2021 at 12:21 PM

DL

“ *Gary and Janet our condolences for you are beyond words, as hearts are touched when one loses a parent. We remember your parents when they visited in Durant and could see all the laughter and frivolity they brought with them. The length of their marriage is almost unheard of in these times. How fortunate your family is to have both of them as role models for a magnificent life!*

Dave & Karon Lewis - August 09, 2021 at 01:01 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Belva Ann Rutledge.*



August 09, 2021 at 12:55 PM



“ *So sorry Gary & Family. Always had the utmost respect for Jim & Belva. Great parents who brought their Family up the right way!*

Gene & Sue Otto - August 09, 2021 at 11:38 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Belva Ann Rutledge.*



August 09, 2021 at 10:32 AM