



Ferne Hillman

April 25, 1925 - April 23, 2007

Ferne Hillman, age 81, of Sault Ste. Marie, MI passed away peacefully at home Monday, April 23, surrounded by family. After a diagnosis of pancreatic cancer, all of her children were home to see her and help care for her in her final days. Born Audrey Ferne Peterman April 25, 1925 in Fiborn Quarry, Michigan, she married Arthur Hillman at the First Presbyterian Church in the Sault on October 29, 1947. They would have celebrated their 60th anniversary this year. In 1943, Ferne graduated from Sault High School. She then graduated from the beauty school in the Sault and operated Seymour Beauty Shop in her home at 931 Seymour Street. Her customers would remember being served coffee and sweets while under the dryer. Ferne was a Cub Scout and Blue Bird Leader, Room Mother, and Sunday School Teacher. She supported her children and grandchildren in school, music, sports, and scouting. She enjoyed Sewing Club each month and was a charter member from 1950. A feature story on the club was published recently in The Evening News. Ferne was a member of Ruth Circle of Central United Methodist Church and for many years actively helped with activities at church. Her hobbies included baking, crocheting, and fishing with her husband at a family cabin on Trout Lake. She enjoyed watching the Young & The Restless for 33 years, and also dabbled in painting and woodcarving. Following retirement 21 years ago, Ferne and Art were Winter Texans with a home in Edinburg, Texas, where they made many special friends at Citrus Mobile Park. Ferne founded the Citrus Red Hots in Texas and was the Queen of that chapter of the Red

Hat Society. She had such fun dressing in red and purple. Ferne is survived by her loving husband, Art; six devoted children: Steven (Marlene) of the Sault; David (Annie) of Chaska, MN; Robert (Kelly) of Kassel, Germany; Dorothy (Peter) Winkelmann of N. Fond du Lac, WI; James (special friend, Brenda) of Champlin, MN; and Thomas (Linda) of Edmonds, WA; eleven grandchildren: Christopher, Nathan, Nicholas Hillman; Sandra (David) Sherman, and Greg Hillman; Elisabeth, Matthew, Allison, and James Hillman; and Michael and Scott Winkelmann; and three great-grandchildren: Madison, Joshua, and Elsa Sherman. Ferne is further survived by a sister, Belva (Edward) Russell, and a brother, Herbert Peterman. Preceding her in death were her parents, Wendell and Ethel Peterman, and brothers, Clifford, Harold, Wayne (Stanley), and Robert; and sister, Dorothy Hotchkiss. A memorial visitation with family will be held at the C.S. Mulder Funeral Home on Friday, April 27, from 6 to 8 p.m. Funeral services will be held at the Central United Methodist Church on Saturday, April 28, at 11:00 a.m. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Make a Wish Foundation in honor of her grandson, Christopher, in Ferne's memory to the Central United Methodist Church Ruth Circle, or to Hospice of Chippewa County, Inc.

Tribute Wall

MR

“ Dear Rob and Hillman family, I was sorry to hear of the passing of your Mother. I know how it feels to loose your Mom, mine left us 7 years ago come Sept. to cancer as well. I hope you find comfort knowing, she's no longer suffering, and in a better place. I will keep your Mom, and all of you in my prayers. God Bless you all.

Michelle Reinhart - June 06, 2007 at 12:00 AM

BD

“ My thoughts and prayers are with you Today. She holds a special place in my heart and I will miss her dearly.

Love,
Brenda Diem

Brenda Diem - April 29, 2007 at 12:00 AM

RL

“ We wintered in Edinburg with Ferne and Art for the past 4 years. I am a member of Citrus Red Hots and greatly enjoyed Ferne's helpfulness and sense of humor. We will miss her.

Don and Rosemary Laughlin

Rosemary Laughlin - April 28, 2007 at 12:00 AM

AP

“ Art, you and your family have my deepest sympathy! Ferne was a first-rate cousin in every way, and was dearly loved. I know, well, how deeply you will miss her, and pray God's comfort and strength for you and your family!

Allen Peterman - April 27, 2007 at 12:00 AM

SF

“ Our thoughts are with you all during this difficult time. Aunt Ferne was a wonderful, good-hearted person. I will always remember her smile and laughter and her fun spirit. The kids and I have had several tea parties in Aunt Ferne's honor with the tea set she bought the girls last year when we visited and have looked at the pictures of the girls in Aunt Fernes 'red hats'. She was wonderful!
Staci, Jim, Nicole, Katrina & Calum Forsyth

Staci Forsyth & Family - April 27, 2007 at 12:00 AM

JR

“ To the Hillman Family:

I was very sad to hear that Aunt Fern passed away. I have some wonderful and funny memories of her, Uncle Art and the family. May you all find comfort in knowing she is at peace now. I know she'll be greatly missed by her family and friends.

With caring thoughts,

Judy Rollins

Judy Rollins - April 27, 2007 at 12:00 AM

ML

“ Our prayers are with you and your family at this difficult time.

Mary LaCrone - April 27, 2007 at 12:00 AM

CF

“ Our prayers are with you, Art, and your family. Ferne will lovingly be remembered by us all. May God bless you all.

Carl, Deb (Rick) and Tim (Shelly) Bosley

Carl Bosley family - April 26, 2007 at 12:00 AM

PM

“ Our condolences to the family. I will remember Mrs. Hillman(Ferne)for her unselfish gift of hospitality. She always made me feel at home, always took the time to talk and had a smile that made everyone at ease. When we were hungry, she always had a special something on the stove or in the fridge. She was a very special person and will be missed.

Peter and Lyn Mitchell - April 25, 2007 at 12:00 AM