



Helmi Koivisto

June 18, 1921 - October 10, 2015

Helmi Koivisto, age 94, of Rudyard, Michigan, died Saturday, October 10, 2015, in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan. She was born June 18, 1921, in Sault Ste. Marie to Matt Alexander Perttunen Peterson and Freda Kaisa (Wehkaoja) Peterson.

Helmi grew up in Sault Ste. Marie and was a 1939 graduate of Sault High. She worked at Sault Savings Bank and the tannery in Sault Ste. Marie. Helmi married Leo Walfred Koivisto on December 24, 1941 in Sault Ste. Marie. They lived in Sault Ste. Marie until 1962 when they made Rudyard their home.

Helmi was a member of the St. James Lutheran Church in Rudyard and the VFW Auxiliary. In 1991, the Rudyard Historical Society published Helmi's book "Looking Back", about growing up as a child of Finnish immigrants in Sault Ste. Marie in the 1920s and 1930s.

Helmi enjoyed flower gardening, camping, and being outdoors. She was an artist who enjoyed painting, ceramics, and making dolls (starting as a child) and concrete yard displays. Helmi also played the accordion. In 1971, she and Leo enjoyed a month long trip to Finland where they visited 133 relatives there.

Helmi is survived by three sons, Ronald Dean (Veronica) Koivisto of New

Boston, Michigan, Eddy (Janet) Koivisto of Rudyard, Leo Randall Koivisto of Rudyard; grandchildren, Lisa Pittman, Tina Nilbrzyolowski, Tammy (Keith) Jesue, Christopher Koivisto, Jamie Koivisto, Kelli Koivisto; and great grandchildren, Jeremy Pittman, Keith Jesue Jr., Ava Lynn Jesue, and Shae Scott Piechocinski.

Helmi was preceded in death by her husband, Leo, on April 15, 2015; sister, Elma Shumbarger; and brothers, John, Arthur, Uuno, and Emil Peterson.

Services will be held Thursday, October 15, at R. Galer Funeral Home, 24549 S. M-129 in Pickford, Michigan. Visitation will be held from 11:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. with the funeral service to follow at 1:00 P.M. conducted by Pastor Matthew Lamb.

Burial will follow at Oaklawn Chapel Gardens.

Condolences may be sent to the family at www.rgalerfuneralhome.com.

Cemetery Details

Oaklawn Chapel Gardens

15264 S. M-129
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **15**. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Family Life Funeral Homes - Pickford
24549 S. M-129
Pickford, MI 49774
(906) 647-3400
flfh@familylifefh.com
<https://www.familylifefuneralhomes.com/>

Funeral Service

OCT **15**. 1:00 PM (ET)

Family Life Funeral Homes - Pickford
24549 S. M-129
Pickford, MI 49774
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Tribute Wall



“ *Helmi Koivisto*

October 05, 2023 at 09:54 AM



“ *Helmi Koivisto*

October 02, 2023 at 10:14 PM



“ *Helmi Koivisto*

September 01, 2022 at 07:49 PM



“ *My family would like to send sincere condolences to the Koivisto family for the loss of your dear loved one. May you find comfort and hope from the bible promise at Isaiah 25:8. Pray constantly, avoid isolation, and lean on God as you cope during this most difficult time.*

Richardson Family - October 19, 2015 at 06:09 PM

JM

“ *Condolances to the Koivisto family.
So sorry to hear of your loss.
Helmi was a very talented lady who will be
greatly missed, and my Mom especially
appreciated her crafts of which several were
present in my Mom and Dad's home.
Ed was my classmate and friend growing up, and the strong
connection was our parents as friends also, especially through the
VFW post and the events held there.
Jim and Sandy Malaski
R.I.P. Helmi*



Jim Malaski - October 13, 2015 at 12:57 PM

MS

“ *Helmi was a dear friend of Wilma And Ike Malaski and they enjoyed
displaying many of her creative works in their home. The house on
the prairie hill will not be the same. Our condolences to Ed and
family as well as all the other family members. Your mother and
grandmother will be greatly missed. Steve and Margi(Malaski)Stutz*

margi stutz - October 13, 2015 at 03:52 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the
family of Helmi Koivisto.*



October 12, 2015 at 04:05 PM

JS

“ *My Godmother, one of the most talented people I have known. She would do anything she put her mind to. She will we greatly missed. Prayers for the family during this difficult time.*

Joann Nayback Smith - October 12, 2015 at 02:56 PM