



## Viola Mae Paquin

April 17, 1931 - April 25, 2025

Viola Mae Paquin, age 94, of St. Ignace, Michigan, died on April 25, 2025, at her home. She was born on April 17, 1931, in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, to Thomas and Esther O'Connor.

Viola grew up in Sault Ste. Marie and graduated from Sault High School. She attended Cosmetology School and earned a degree in cosmetology. She moved to St. Ignace and began working as a beautician. Viola met Bernard Eugene Paquin at a local dance and they married on February 18, 1951, in St Ignace. They started their family and became business owners. Over the years they owned and operated motels, beauty shops, properties, restaurants, and had twelve children whom she loved dearly. Viola never retired, she continued to do hair in her kitchen and volunteer with the Special Olympics.

Viola was a member of the St Ignatius Loyola Catholic Church and was Assistant Area Director, coach, and volunteer for the Special Olympics area 35.

Viola enjoyed gardening, canning, going to the casino, and baking her favorite cinnamon rolls, pies, pasties, and her amazing bread. Above all she loved her family and her faith.

Viola is survived by her husband, Bernard; children, Thomas (Treasa) Paquin

of St. Ignace, Brenda (Ron) Nelson of Escanaba, Michigan, Michael (Janet) Paquin of St. Ignace, Kenneth (Mary) Paquin of Minnesota, Geraldine (Darrin) Brow of St. Ignace, Catherine (William) Bauman of Manistique, Michigan, Kevin (Regina) Paquin of St. Ignace and Christina Paquin of St. Ignace; eighty grandchildren, great-grandchildren, great-great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

Viola was preceded in death by her children, Daniel Paquin, Denise Paquin, Angela Paquin, Phyllis (Carl) Huffman; grandson, BJ Huffman; great-grandson, Sam Paquin; four siblings; and parents, Thomas and Esther.

A Memorial Gathering will be held Saturday, May 3, 2025, from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM at St. Ignatius Loyola Church, 120 Church St. St. Ignace, MI 49781. Memorial Mass will follow at 1:00 PM. and Luncheon to follow.

Violas' final resting place will be St. Ignatius Loyola Catholic Cemetery.

Memorials Contributions may be made to St. Ignatius Loyola Church, 120 Church St., St. Ignace, MI 49781 or EUP Area 35 Special Olympics, 305 W 19th St., Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783.

# Cemetery Details

## St. Ignatius Loyola Catholic Cemetery

Chambers Street  
St. Ignace, MI 49781

# Previous Events

## Memorial Gathering

MAY 3. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

St. Ignatius Loyola Catholic Church  
120 Church  
St. Ignace, MI 49781

## Memorial Mass

MAY 3. 1:00 PM (ET)

St. Ignatius Loyola Catholic Church  
120 Church  
St. Ignace, MI 49781

# Tribute Wall

RP

“ *Vi can never be replaced. She was my "mum" for 56 years. She did not judge, was always accepting of others and had a heart of gold. She had an ornate work ethic and felt guilty when she wasn't doing something. Her biggest fear was someone to watch over her youngest daughter. Her oldest daughter died in January and her heart was broken. Love you. Save a place for me at God's table.*

Ruth paquin - May 06, 2025 at 02:17 PM

MJ

“ *I remember Vi from spending summers at my grandparents' home in the 3rd ward. Used to always play with Vi and Bernard's 4 oldest kids. Years later Vi would cut my aunt Mary Winter's hair when she was in long-term care in St Ignace. RIP Vi.*

Mary LaDuke Joslin - May 03, 2025 at 05:15 PM

CN

“ *We have many fond memories of Vi from Special Olympics. She will never be forgotten for her many kindnesses. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family*

Carol Nygaard - May 02, 2025 at 01:46 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Viola Mae Paquin.*



May 02, 2025 at 01:24 PM

JH

“ Gerry, please accept my sincerest condolences on the loss of your mom. I am sending many prayers for you and yours. God Bless

*Jamie McCoy Harvey*

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Jamie Harvey - May 02, 2025 at 09:36 AM

JP

“ One of the sweetest ladies that ever came through my register line at Glens. RIP lovely Viola 🥹💕

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Joanie Pavia - May 01, 2025 at 07:13 PM



“ Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Viola Mae Paquin.



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May 01, 2025 at 02:28 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Viola Mae Paquin.



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May 01, 2025 at 12:49 PM

LR

“ Love, Pam, Eric, Jeremy and Ryan purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Viola Mae Paquin.



Love, Pam, Eric, Jeremy and Ryan - May 01, 2025 at 12:38 PM

SL

“ Shirley L. purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Viola Mae Paquin.



Shirley L. - May 01, 2025 at 11:55 AM

RM

“ I am so sorry for your loss. I remember sitting in her shop while she did mom's hair. 'Vi' was a wonderful, dedicated person. My prayers and thoughts are with during this difficult time.



Reinette Murray - May 01, 2025 at 10:22 AM

JT

“ Jen Randy Brian Touchtone purchased the Fiery Lily and Rose for the family of Viola Mae Paquin.



Jen Randy Brian Touchtone - May 01, 2025 at 09:40 AM