



Mary A. Rice

May 25, 1923 - March 16, 2008

Mary A. Rice, 84, of rural Bluffton, died at 1:55 p.m. Sunday, March 16, 2008, at Markle Health and Rehabilitation Center in Markle.

Born in Huntington on May 25, 1923 to Palmer and Emma (Bair) Hillegas, she married Darwin R. Rice in Nappanee on July 26, 1942; he preceded her in death on March 1, 2004.

A graduate of Huntington High School, Mrs. Rice worked at Murphy's in Fort Wayne and the Sears store in Huntington. She also helped her husband run the family farm.

Surviving relatives include two daughters, Lana (James) Miller of Bluffton and Janet (Earl) Welch of Arizona City, Ariz.; two sons, David Rice of Richardson, Texas and Jeff (Jody) Rice of Lincoln, Neb.; two sisters, Arnetta Von Holten of Albion, Mich., and Betty Scott of Markle; eight grandchildren and many great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Rice was also preceded in death by two brothers, James and Palmer Hillegas.

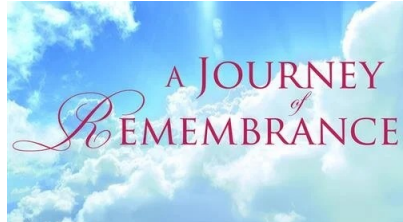
Funeral services will be at 1 p.m. Friday, at the Thoma/Rich, Chaney and Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton with Pastor Larry Sprinkle officiating. Calling hours will be from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday at the funeral home. Cremation will follow the service on Friday.

Preferred memorials are to the Wells County Alzheimer's Support Group.

Tribute Wall



“ *Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mary A. Rice*



Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home - March 16, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ *Mary A. Rice*

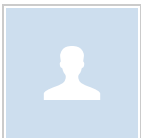
September 08, 2022 at 08:26 PM



“ *Beloved Grandmother. Rest in peace.*

*Love,
Mariann & Tim##imported-begin##Mariann Taylor##imported-end##*

March 25, 2008 at 09:16 AM



“ *I will miss you grandma, I love you dearly.##imported-begin##Brian Whaley##imported-end##*

March 21, 2008 at 02:51 AM



“ Dear Cousins., Lana, Jeff, Dave, and Janet,

Our deepest sympathy in the loss of your mother. May your memoires of good and wonderful fun filled times with mom be always with you. We are sorry we cannot be with you on Friday.

Jack and Kay Ann##imported-begin##Jack and Kay Ann Bartrom (Gardner-Hillegas)##imported-end##

March 20, 2008 at 08:31 PM



“ *I was sorry to hear of Aunt Adelia's passing. My thoughts and prayers are with the Rice family. I most remember what a great sense of humor Aunt Adelia had. Her quick wit would always fill a room with laughter before long. She will be missed.##imported-begin##William Scott##imported-end##*

March 20, 2008 at 05:50 PM



“ Janet and Family,

We are sorry to hear of your mother's death. You have our deepest sympathy.##imported-begin##Mary and Dick Whaley, Thelma Goodnight##imported-end##

March 20, 2008 at 03:20 PM



“ *My condolences to the Rice family.*

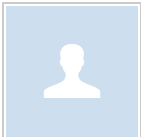
I have not seen Aunt Adelia in a few years and looking at her picture reminds me that she was epitome of an Aunt Dee Dee! Her robust laugh and her quick wit will remain with me always.

She took care of the Scott kids when mom went in to have another Scott kid, which was often! Her strong arms and soft soul were always a comfort. From driving a tractor to doing laundry in the basement she seemed to master all.

I know you will miss her, I will.

Love to all! My prayers are with you.##imported-begin##Jennifer Scott Ellebracht##imported-end##

March 20, 2008 at 11:30 AM



“ *I am very sorry to hear of Mary's passing. I liked her very much. She made me laugh alot when I was around her. We got along well.*

My condolences to the family.

I will remember her always.

Dave Whaley##imported-begin##dave whaley##imported-end##

March 19, 2008 at 04:07 PM



“ To the Family of Mary Rice, we are sorry to hear of her passing away! May God be with you, and we wanted you to know we prayed with her in her room. God Bless, Rev Joe and Virginia Sumwalt, Monday sing-a-long service. We are Cindy Sumwalt's Parent's, Nurse on floor 2. At Markle Health Care.##imported-begin##Rev Joe & Virginia Sumwalt##imported-end##

March 19, 2008 at 04:54 AM



“ Dear Family of Mary Rice, I am sorry to hear of Mary's passing and wanted you to know, you have my sympathy and we will all miss her! You are in my prayer's. Cindy Sumwalt, 1st. shift Nurse on # 2 Hall.##imported-begin##Cindy Sumwalt, L.P.N. Markle Health##imported-end##

March 19, 2008 at 04:42 AM