



Ruth "Lorraine" Eaton

August 10, 1932 - January 12, 2021

In the first minutes of January 12, 2021 at the age of 88, Ruth Loraine Eaton left behind her injuries and ailments, to receive a glorified, perfect, and pain-free body in the presence of her LORD and Savior, Jesus Christ. Born on August 10, 1932, Loraine was the first-born of the three daughters of Loren and Lula (Woolston) Birdsall of Clare, Michigan. She married her childhood sweetheart, Leonard "Ted" Eaton of Harrison, MI on October 21, 1950. During their 70 years of marriage, they had three children, 8 grandchildren, and 11 great-grandchildren. While raising her children, Loraine studied music at Delta College near Bay City and graduated from the University of New Mexico with bachelor's degrees in Music Education and Piano Pedagogy. She had a passion and talent for piano and organ music. She shared that gift with many as a piano teacher for decades. She was a music, English, and substitute teacher in elementary schools in New Mexico and Michigan. She also served as a church organist and pianist for many years. She spent many blissful moments enraptured by well-presented pieces of music, of nearly any genre. Loraine also had a deep appreciation for the beautiful world God made. As a child she played with and nurtured the chickens, lambs, and cows on her parent's farm. As an adult she reveled in the water-colored, rocky vistas of the American southwest, the majestic diversity of National Parks, and the rolling fertile fields of her native home. She was often known to fall in love with a particular and often heavy rock on her travels, and Leonard was commissioned to bring it along. The flower gardens she enjoyed cultivating

were often ornamented with these treasures. Loraine's dearest love, though, was faith and family, and the two were so intertwined they could never be separated. Children and grandchildren were truly a gift from God, and she and Leonard prioritized their celebrations and accomplishments. The Church and the Word of God were paramount, and the best examples, inspirations, and lessons were grounded in and girded by them. The family Loraine leaves behind is grateful for this foundation!

In paradise, Loraine joins her parents, Loren and Lula, as well as her sister, Donelle Birdsall Raab. She is survived by her husband Leonard "Ted" Eaton, sister Darlene Case and her husband Richard, and her children - Judy Byler, Jerry Eaton, his wife, Connie, and Brenda Fellows and her husband Walter. The family requests that in lieu of flowers, donations be made in memoriam of Loraine to: Brown Corners Church, 5540 S. Clare Ave., Clare, MI 48617 or Samaritan's Purse (a ministry of Franklin Graham), PO Box 3000, Boone, NC 28607.

There will be a celebration of Loraine Eaton's life, at 2pm on January 16, 2021, at Brown Corners Church with Pastor Jeremiah Ketchum officiating. Due to state regulations, face masks for the service are required, and no additional public showing will be offered. Arrangements were handled by the Clare Chapel of Stephenson-Wyman Funeral Home. On-line guestbook at www.stephenson-wyman.com

Cemetery Details

Maple Grove Cemetery

1931 E. Townline Lake Rd.
Harrison, MI 48625

Previous Events

Service

JAN 16. 2:00 PM (ET)

Brown Corners United Brethren Church
5540 S. Clare Avenue
Clare, MI 48617

Tribute Wall

SF

“ *Lorraine was our organist at Farwell United Methodist Church for several years and we loved her. My late husband Larry was the Choir director and he and Lorraine were a great team. She was a lovely lady and we were so fortunate to enjoy her wonderful musical talent and her friendship.* ”

Sue Franklin - January 17, 2021 at 09:57 AM

JY

“ *May the Lord bless Mrs. Eaton with a peaceful rest. Her music, her smile and her spirit will be in our memory forever.* ”

Jim & Yawei - January 15, 2021 at 09:09 AM

NB

“ *Lorraine was my first piano teacher when I was young. I have fond memories of going to her parents old farmhouse for my lessons. God bless and you'll be in my thoughts and prayers.* ”



Nancy Bruce Bauer - January 14, 2021 at 02:47 PM

SE

“ *Lorraine was such a sweet, kind lady who we felt was a privilege to have in our Bible study group. It was a blessing to witness her & Ted's deep devotion to each other & their love of family & deep faith. We'll miss her humor & insight & the love that she shared, but know she's praising Jesus in heaven. Thank you for enriching our lives, precious lady, be joyful in the presence of our Lord. Stan & Kathy Evens* ”

Stan & Kathy Evens - January 14, 2021 at 11:34 AM

KK

“ *The Lord welcomed home a beautiful soul. We didn't know her long but she was a gracious, kind lady. We purchased some beautiful southwestern art from their store and I think of her whenever I look at it. Our prayers are for her family during this time of great loss. Neighbors who built the log home next to Cotton's, Kim and Roger Kushmaul*

Kim and Roger Kushmaul - January 14, 2021 at 09:21 AM