



## Eleanor R. Serra

May 27, 1929 - February 8, 2018

Died peacefully at Heartland Care Center on February 8, 2018. Eleanor was born on May 27, 1929 in Kalamazoo Michigan. She graduated from Kalamazoo Central High school in 1947 where she was active in the musical and drama programs during the time that the notorious Howard Chenery was director. She went on to sing with the Sweet Adelines in South Haven Michigan, was a member of a quartette, "The Tru-Tones". and shared her beautiful voice in her church for years. She married Joseph Serra in 1947, and together they raised three children. She served as Director of Vandercook Hall at WMU during the 60's.

Eleanor's main focus in life was caring for her family for whom she had a deep and generous love; her mother, siblings, children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Her lifelong faith in God made her resilient, tough and caring. Her wickedly funny sense of humor made her fun to be around and displayed itself even as dementia tried to erase her.

During her lifetime she lost her parents (Frederick and Ruth Harrison), her beloved husband (Joe), a brother (Fred Harrison), two sisters (Barbara Searles and Marilyn Davies), an infant daughter (Ellen Jo) and daughter Jeanne Mary Martin.

Loved ones left behind are son Joseph (Barbara) Serra of Marshall Michigan, daughter Judy Serra of Plainwell Michigan, sister Carol (Dwayne) Srackengast, grandchildren: Cheryl (Joe) Kucharski, Steven (Lara) Serra, John (Brittany) Jeska, Julia Jeska, Michelle (Chris) Yates, Gabriel Martin, Serra (Ryan) Zimmerman, Mary (Noel) Habashy, Rebekah (Brian) Barrett, Jonathan Martin, Joseph Martin and Bethany Martin. She also has ten great-grandchildren at the time of her death: Avery Kucharski, Eoin and Callum Yates, Bella, Alex and Izaak Zimmerman, Baileigh Martin, Harrison and Simon Barrett, and Charlie Jeska.

The family thanks the incredible staff at Stanford Lodge in Plainwell Michigan and the staff at Heartland in Battle Creek for their thoughtful and gentle care of her in these last difficult years.

A private family graveside service will be held with Pastor David Louder from St. Stephen's Episcopal Church officiating at Fort Custer National Cemetery. Memorial donations may be made to the Kalamazoo Gospel Mission. Assistance with memorials is available at the Kempf Family Funeral and Cremation Service.

# Comments

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“ What a lovely tribute to your wonderful mother. She must have been an amazing woman. Prayers for you and your family, Joe. Sincerely Linda

**Linda Ionati of Ft wayne indiana** - February 12, 2018 at 12:00 AM

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“ It's hard to come up with words to express how much you will be missed. You were an incredible woman and we're so glad to be a part of your family. You are greatly loved!

**Mary and Noel Habashy of State College, PA** - February 11, 2018 at 12:00 AM

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“ Such a sweet woman! Our family was so happy to spend time with her this past summer. Love you!

**Brian Barrett of Temecula, Ca** - February 11, 2018 at 12:00 AM

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“ Joe and Barb , we are sorry for your loss. May the good Lord give you comfort in this trying time.

**Dave and Judy Winger of Palestine, Illinois** - February 11, 2018 at 12:00 AM