



Esther L. Pfister

May 3, 1916 - March 12, 2013

Esther L. Pfister, 96, of Adrian, passed away Tuesday, March 12, 2013, under the loving care of her family and Hospice of Lenawee.

Born May 3, 1916, in Adrian, Michigan, she was the daughter of Royal and Mary (Smith) Kidman.

Her family was active in their church, West Adrian United Church of Christ, where she met Medford Pfister, also of Adrian. They were married on March 16, 1935. He preceded her in death in 1984.

Esther and Medford raised their children and operated a dairy farm in Adrian. In 1969, she became the bookkeeper for the dental practice of Murray, Laidlaw and Wolf, of Tecumseh. She retired in 1982.

Encouraged by her father, Esther was a self-taught pianist and organist. She was the organist at her church for many decades and enjoyed accompanying her children and grandchildren for recitals and solos. A life-long member of her church, she also served as president of the Women's Fellowship and was active with the West Adrian Quilters. She was a 4H leader for the West Adrian Live Wires and a member of the Rome Grange, Better Homes Extension Club, and Woolworth Women's Club. A talented seamstress and an accomplished quilter, Esther won 1st place at the national Grange quilting competition in 1994. She also enjoyed traveling with her husband.

She is survived by one son, Russell (Michele Slowey) Pfister of Portsmouth, VA; one daughter, Mary (David) Heimerdinger of Clinton; one daughter-in-law, Jean Pfister of Adrian; 11 grandchildren: Sherrie (Brian) Bertram of Onsted;

Mark (Amy) Pfister of Adrian; Christine Lancaster and George (Karen) Lancaster both of Saline; Brenda Beloosesky and Laura Pfister, both of Kew Gardens, NY; Steve Winter of Seattle, WA; Kimberly (Craig) Davis of Mound View, MN; Melissa Winter (Michael Khoo) of Washington, DC; Audra (Jason) Stringer and Julia Heimerdinger both of Clinton; and 19 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents; two sons, Robert, in infancy and John Pfister, in 2008; and one sister, Alice Griffin.

Funeral services for Esther will take place at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, March 15, 2013, at Wagley Funeral Home, with Rev. John Kottke officiating. Burial will follow at Lenawee Hills Memorial Park in Adrian. Visitation will be on Thursday, at the funeral home from 2-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m.

Contributions in memory of Esther may be made to the West Adrian United Church of Christ. Online condolences and memories may be shared at www.WagleyFuneralHome.com.

Cemetery Details

Lenawee Hills Memorial Park

1291 Wolf Creek Hwy.
Adrian, MI 49221

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 14. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Wagley Funeral Home (Adrian)
1501 W. Maumee St.
Adrian, MI 49221
(517) 263-1400
info@wagleyfuneralhome.com
<https://www.WagleyFuneralHome.com>

Visitation

MAR 14. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Wagley Funeral Home (Adrian)
1501 W. Maumee St.
Adrian, MI 49221
(517) 263-1400
info@wagleyfuneralhome.com
<https://www.WagleyFuneralHome.com>

Service

MAR 15. 11:00 AM (ET)

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Tribute Wall



“ *Esther L. Pfister*

January 28, 2023 at 12:24 PM



“ *Aunt Esther was such an important part of my "coming up" years. Her big white house was a short walk from our farm house and it was a trip I made often (sometimes accompanied by my 4-H cow, Pixie). Aunt Esther taught me to knit, helped me sew my 4-H projects and made sure I understood cooking safety. To this day, when I turn the handle on a pan to the back of the stove, I think of Aunt Esther. Even my son Doren, learned that "Aunt Esther always said to turn the handle to the back of the stove so you don't accidentally knock the pan off". Aunt Esther's house was always warm and full of good cooking smells and cookies were always in the oven or the freezer. She was my pianist for all the solo and ensemble contests (how she managed to suffer through those contests with her kids and then with my family too, I'll never know...) and she accompanied me while singing more times than I can count. Aunt Esther was quiet and reserved and always there for me. She supported Raymond and me without hesitation and she will be a part of my memories and my life forever. Rest in peace Aunt Esther. You will be remembered and missed. Love, Patty (VanDoren-Blake)*

Patricia Blake - March 15, 2013 at 09:16 AM

DD

“ I have such great memories of Aunt Esther, especially lunches with her and Uncle Medford, and lots of band festivals when she accompanied me.

I so regret that I am not able to be there, but I have a memorial service to conduct Friday afternoon. The family will be in my thoughts and prayers.

Doug Van Doren

Doug Van Doren - March 14, 2013 at 06:49 PM

“ My grandmother’s obituary is a touching tribute to a wonderful matriarch. I wanted to share some thoughts about her as well.

These are the things that I remember about her, known to me simply as “Grandma,” that made her unique and wonderful. When I was young, my family would get in the car and drive to Michigan. The whole drive, I would feel so happy, like going to Grandma’s house was just the best possible thing that could happen to a little girl. The first thing she’d do is give me a gigantic hug and pinch my cheeks and say how precious I was. Then she’d open that big freezer and give me a chocolate chip cookie (or 2), from the container with little marshmallows and wax paper.

I would run right upstairs, to play with the toys that my dad Russ, Aunt Mary, and Uncle John had played with as kids: the wind up musical toy that played “ho, ho, ho just you and me, little brown jug how I love thee,” the dolls, the wagon. I loved to trick my mom and grandma with the little jar of cold cream that hid a snake inside. They always seemed surprised! My cousins would come over to see us and everything in the world seemed right.

My Grandma’s house had those creaky wooden stairs, and you could hear the grandfather clock ringing (like clockwork). Everything was in order. You could find report cards from 50 years ago. The myriad of cereals were in their allotted space. The big plates and little plates were separate. The refrigerator and freezer, and better yet, the cellar with the jarred fruits were always full.

In this day and age, many people don’t have a clear vision of what having a home and family really means. In fact, some of my grandparents descendants (3 children, 11 grandchildren, and 19 great grandchildren) don’t have the “traditional” family structure. The word “step-child or step-grandchild” was not in her vocabulary and she was not judgmental about her children or grandchildren’s choices in life; she was just happy to add more pictures to her album, as well as having more birthday cards to send out each year.

She sent me a birthday card for 42 years straight! And she never missed any of my children's birthdays either.

I am fortunate that I can look at my grandmother's life, her attachment to family, church, and community and know what tradition means. My Grandma, Esther Pfister is the glue that held this family together, and I know that the torch has been passed down to the next generation. As a family, we will honor her memory and accept the torch that she has passed on to us.

Miss you Grandma! Love, Brenda

Brenda Pfister Beloosesky - March 14, 2013 at 04:29 PM

ST

“ *Stephanie lit a candle in memory of Esther L. Pfister*



Stephanie - March 14, 2013 at 02:58 PM

PA

“ *Pat And Sue Arble lit a candle in memory of Esther L. Pfister*

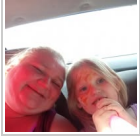


Pat and Sue Arble - March 13, 2013 at 06:02 PM

PA

We never had the pleasure of meeting Mrs. Pfister....may she rest in peace. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family and friends.

Pat and Sue Arble - March 13, 2013 at 06:04 PM



“ *Joyce Adams lit a candle in memory of Esther
L. Pfister*



Joyce Adams - March 12, 2013 at 11:33 PM