



Gertrude Edna Ottobre

JUL 22, 1935 - JAN 8, 2022



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Table of Contents

Obituary	Page 3
Tribute Wall	Page 5



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Big Rapids - Gertrude Edna (VanWestrienen) Ottobre, 86, of Big Rapids, went to be with her Lord on Saturday, January 8, 2022.

She was born July 22, 1935, in Rodney, the daughter of Harvey and Gladys (Smith) VanWestrienen, and lived in the area her entire life. For 17 years, Gertrude worked for Mecosta County General Hospital before retiring.

On September 1, 1956, Gertrude married Paul Ottobre Sr, and together they raised their family with love, strong faith, and prayers. She enjoyed baking, embroidering baby blankets for the growing family, playing with her grandkids, and gardening with Daddy. She filled the flower baskets on the porch in summers, liked feeding the birds, and loved to reminisce about her favorite stories of her loving husband and large family. They will all miss her smiling face and hugs.

Gertrude is survived by her husband Paul; their children, Terry VanWestrienen, Donna (Henry) Glover, Paul Ottobre Jr., Tony (Cindy) Ottobre, Cindy (Darrell) Wymer, Mike (Dorothy) Ottobre, Joe (Debbie) Ottobre, Phillip (Amy) Ottobre, Patty (Jim) Langell, Linda (Mark) Bolton, and Alice (Delmer) Steffes; 30 grandchildren; 62 great grandchildren; four great great-grandchildren; her sisters, Maxine (Elmer) VanAlstine and Pat Skipper; and many nieces and nephews, including a special niece Gladys (Dennis) DePew. She was preceded in death by her parents, sisters Margaret Kirshbaum, Alice VanderSchuur, Wilma Jean Holt, Marcella Thorson, and Esther Watson, infant brother Charles VanWestrienen, and brothers Kenneth and Jack VanWestrienen Sr.

The Mass of Christian Burial will be 11 a.m., Friday, January 14, 2022, at St. Mary Catholic Church in Big Rapids, with Father Jegar Fickel as celebrant. Spring burial will be in the Mt. Carmel Cemetery. Gertrude's family will greet friends beginning at 10 a.m. Friday at the church. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in her name may be made to St. Mary/St. Paul Parish, or the Manna Pantry at St. Andrew's



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Episcopal Church. Care and arrangements are entrusted to the Mohnke Funeral Home in Big Rapids. Share a memory or express condolences at www.mohnkefuneralhome.com.



Tribute Wall

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BR

Bill Rice posted:

Mama Gertrudel may have not known you but I still love youlan so sorry for your loss to the whole familyLove your son Bill

January 13 at 8:00 PM

LT

Lynn Totten posted:

Photo

January 11 at 8:00 PM

LT

Lynn Totten posted:

My mom Pat with Maxine and Gertie. Happier times. This photo put a smile on my moms face. I hope it does the same for you

January 11 at 8:00 PM

LT

Lynn Totten posted:

Undeniably, Aunt Gertie was one of the best aunts ever. For a city boy from Florida, time spent on the farm was such great fun. Playing in Uncle Paul's old cars, pretending to be race car drivers. What seemed like giant apple trees with plenty of rotten a

January 11 at 8:00 PM

PA

Patty Watson Amey posted:

I am so sorry for you loss.My heartfelt prayers are sent to you and yours.HuggsPatty.

January 10 at 8:00 PM

KO

Karen Ottobre posted:

Thinking of Paul and all of the family at this sad time. What a great loss to all of you. She was a great person, very caring all of the time. I have many fond memories.

January 10 at 8:00 PM



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SM

Sam Ottobre Mortensen lit a candle in honor of Gertrude.

To all of my Ottobre Family, I am so sorry for your loss. I remember going over to the house and chasing cousins around when Tony and I were little. A lot of great memories! You are all in my thoughts and prayers!



January 10 at 8:00 PM

CK

Cliff And Linda Kilbourne posted:

Linda, We are sending peace and love to you and your family. Our hearts are saddened for your loss. And know that you are in our prayers to find comfort in knowing she is with our Lord. Sincerely, Linda and Cliff Kilbourne

January 10 at 8:00 PM

MA

Mary posted:

Patti I'm so sorry for your loss. I remember when Gert worked here at the hospital. She was always so nice It sounds like she lived a wonderful life. You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers

January 10 at 8:00 PM

BG

Bonnie And Greg posted:

We are sending the most hugest hug to all of the family. It's so hard. Sending you comfort. Gertrude had a sweet, kind spirit. Blessed to have known her. Even though we are not able to be there. Know your in our thoughts and prayers. 🙏 Love,

January 9 at 8:00 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Gertrude by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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