



Mrs. Thurley C. Marsh

December 27, 1925 - January 12, 2020

MARSH, MRS. THURLEY C.,
Saginaw Twp., Michigan

Thurley passed away peacefully on Sunday, January 12, 2020, at the Edgewood Assisted Living Center, Saginaw Twp., Michigan, at the age of 94 years. Thurley Catherine Hipple was born on December 27, 1925, in Detroit, Michigan, to the late Norman and Gem (Riopelle) Hipple. She was married to Claude James Marsh on April 8, 1950, in Ferndale, Michigan, and after 55 years of marriage, Claude predeceased her on June 25, 2005. She was also predeceased by her only brother, Norman Hipple.

Thurley is survived by her three nieces, Marie Wyant, Karen Thompson and Lynette Hipple; four grandnephews and three grandnieces; several second cousins too. In addition, she leaves special friends, Oarie Lemanski, MaryAnne Greyerbiehl and Ruth Schluchter, among many others, and several of Claude's family members.

Thurley and Claude had no children of their own, but the young men her husband coached over the years were all like family. Thurley attended school in Detroit and graduated from Eastern Michigan University (formerly Michigan State Normal College). After she received her B.S. degree and then marrying Claude, they lived in Bad Axe, Michigan for 16 years, while her favorite coach taught and coached football and track. Thurley worked as a secretary in Bad Axe, and then taught school until they moved to Saginaw in 1965, then worked again as secretary for the Saginaw Public Schools until her retirement in 1988. Thurley loved music, especially the New Reformation Dixieland Band. She taught dance after college until she was married to Claude. She enjoyed attending athletic events and musical entertainment events with her Claude.

Thurley will be laid to rest, next to her Claude, in Ridgelawn Memorial Cemetery in Oxford, Michigan on Wednesday, January 22, 2020, at 2:00 p.m. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be sent to the Huron County Community Foundation, P.O. Box 56, Bad Axe, MI 48413, Attn: Claude Marsh Scholarship Fund.

Due to the current Covid-19 crisis, Thurley's memorial gathering will be held on a later date at the Crooked Creek Banquet Center 9387 Gratiot Rd., (Thomas Twp.) Saginaw, Michigan.

Memories and sympathies of Thurley may be shared with the family on her memorial website at WakemanFuneralHome.com

Comments



“ It's so wonderful to read these tributes to Aunt Thurley. She wasn't my real aunt but a significant part of our lives growing up and into adulthood. She and Uncle Claude were a big reason for my Dad getting into sports and eventually on to college. After that, Dad coached with Uncle Claude and basically they were family. Dad always respectfully called Uncle Claude "Coach" and called Aunt Thurley "Mrs. Marsh" even though he's now 84 years old. I'll always remember Aunt Thurley for the most unique and thoughtful Christmas gifts as we were growing up, her stylish outfits and glamorous rings, her dry sense of humor, her love for handwritten notes, and her tender heart for her Claude, dogs and everything football. She affectionately referred to me as "brat" (definitely a name that followed me from my younger years) and as I grew up she would get teary-eyed when I hugged her goodbye because she loved so intensely. I can't imagine anywhere she'd rather be than with Uncle Claude and I hope after missing him so very much all these years that they've had a beautiful reunion, are hand-in-hand once again and enjoying jazz music! Thanks Aunt Thurley for being a part of our lives and please say "hi" to Uncle Claude :-)

Jana (Lemanski) Simmons

Jana Simmons - January 23, 2020 at 12:59 PM



“ Mrs. Marsh was the reason I became a PE teacher. I always had a great respect for her. I loved her Christmas card every year and how she signed it -- Thurley and my Claude. I was a big fan of Mr. Marsh also. I started going to the Bad Axe football games with my Dad when I was very young. As a cheerleader I remember riding around with her in her big, black Pontiac convertible. I loved that lady.

Sharon (Rees) Wilkins

Sharon Wilkins - January 21, 2020 at 06:24 PM



“ I had the pleasure of working with Thurley. When I started, it was only a few days assignment that lasted six years. During that time (typing psych. reports) we became good friends. She was kind, generous and a no nonsense kind of lady. I always admired her deep devotion to her husband, family (she told many stories about her mother, aunt and little brother), and her strong work ethic. For the past few Christmas's, I've missed receiving her Christmas Cards. Her cards were always the first ones we received. She was truly one of a kind I will miss her.

Joyce Crevia

Joyce A Crevia - January 17, 2020 at 01:07 PM



“ I am living in Arizona for the winter, but I may be back in Michigan early May. If so I will attend Thurley's memorial. I had a nice visit with Thurley in late October just before I left for Arizona. Mary Milne.

Mary Milne - January 16, 2020 at 12:43 PM



“ It was shortly after coach passed away that we attended the dedication of Claude Marsh Field as the new BAHS football facility. I spoke to Thurley and it became obvious that she was having a difficult time with her loss. She mentioned how much she enjoyed hearing from coach's former players and this was the beginning of numerous letter exchanges between us. It amazed me how often she would write and the number of pages. After being pen pals for quite some time, my wife and I decided it was time to take Thurley out to lunch, and she sat us down in her personal booth at Beef O'Brady's with a portrait of her beloved coach watching over us. It is one of my favorite memories of her, and it rekindled a lot of memories of the old coach. The thing I will always remember about Thurley is the depth of her love and devotion to coach. Her letters would have made him smile and cry at the same time. I don't think Romeo and Juliet could have ever rivaled their union. In the final years I came to miss those letters, and when they stopped arriving, I tried to call her, but time had taken its toll. This will probably have to serve as my final letter to her, so let me just close by saying: Thurley, you were a magnificent lady, and it was a great honor to have known you and to have played sports for one of the finest men I have known. Despite the sorrow, it is at least a comfort to know that the two of you will once again be side by side through eternity. Rest in peace

Ronald Yageman - January 15, 2020 at 09:30 PM



“ "Aunt Thurley" as she was always known to me made a lasting impression (as did Claude) on an uncountable number of people. In actuality, she and Claude were named my Godparents at baptism. She loved us (the Lemanski family) in a way that a blood relative would. She definitely had strong opinions and thought the world of my dad and she cherished me too (along with the family). The obituary states "her coach" and that is exactly how she would talk about Claude. Unfortunately her life changed forever when Uncle Claude passed and moving forward in life was more than difficult for her when she lost her coach and husband. I hope today she is reunited with Claude for eternity as that is what would have made her happiest. I will always have great memories of how good the Marsh's were to my family and how they altered our family course of history for the better.

Derek Lemanski - January 15, 2020 at 11:50 AM



“ I was the flower girl in Thurley & Claude's wedding at age 8! they were such fun to be around. I remember going to Bad Axe to visit them with my cousin Marie when we were 12 or so. Thurley taught us how to shave our legs!!! We thought our moms would kill us. Claude ran the Drive in movie theater that summer so we got to see movies & eat lots of popcorn. We corresponded a lot in the early years after Claude passed but we didn't see each other. She was in a class all by herself. God bless you Thurley. Cousin Sharon Hinson Kerr

Sharon Hinson Kerr - January 19, 2020 at 12:23 PM



“ Well said, Deke. I really enjoy reading these tributes to her. She would be so touched. They both were good to us :-)

Jana Simmons - January 23, 2020 at 01:04 PM