



Mrs. Bernice E. Vega

January 9, 1927 - January 6, 2019

Bernice Esther (Hass) Vega was called home to be with her Lord on Sunday, January 6, 2019, from Serenity Springs in Saginaw. She was born on January 9, 1927, in Detroit, MI, to the late Fred and Martha (Zilz) Hass. Bernice married Henry John Vega on September 18, 1948, in Unionville, Michigan. He predeceased her this past October. Prior to his passing they had celebrated 70 years of marriage. Their marriage was blessed with five children; Deborah (Jim) Meyer, Patricia (Ferris) Finerty, Brian Vega, Carol Vega, and Elisa (David) Solak; many grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren. She was also predeceased by her sisters, Loretta (Hass) Baker, Mildred (Hass) Witek and Eileen (Hass) (Hoppe) Krug. Bernice entered nursing school at Harper Hospital School of Nursing immediately upon completing high school. While still in training, she was a member of the Cadet Nursing Corps. She worked at the Aleda E. Lutz Medical Center - Veteran's Administration Hospital in Saginaw, MI, St. Joseph Hospital in Ypsilanti, MI, and St. Luke's Hospital in Saginaw, MI. At the time of her retirement, she had earned certification as an operating room nurse. Bernice, who always expressed that it was more sanitary to give a hug than to shake hands, was known for her warm hugs to family, friends, and strangers alike. All who knew her looked forward to getting one of her hugs. Her compassion and caring earned her the first annual "Hands and Heart" award given to her by the Aleda Lutz Medical Center - Veteran's Administration. This award was given for "the most to exercise professional expertise in providing emotional support, help

and guidance to patients". She attended Faith Lutheran Church in Bridgeport until retiring to Traverse City, Michigan. Bernice and Henry then became members of Redeemer Lutheran Church in Interlochen, Michigan. She faithfully served her Lord on the Lutheran Women's Missionary League, Stephen Ministry and donated many hours of service in other areas at both churches. Both she and Henry enjoyed the many mixed doubles bowling leagues they were on. Bernice loved to garden throughout her life and was a member of the Interlochen Garden Club in Interlochen, Michigan. After retiring she enjoyed swim aerobics in Traverse City. Both she and Henry loved to travel and explored the eastern seaboard prior to the birth of their first child. After retirement they spent many hours driving around the country to visiting popular sites and family in the lower forty-eight; including Arizona, Florida, Wisconsin, South Dakota and all states in between. Their travels also took them to Alaska visiting Denali National Park and many other places while spending time with Bernice's niece and her husband. Bernice's funeral and committal will be held 11:00 a.m., Saturday, January 12, 2019, at Faith Lutheran Church, 4241 Williamson, Bridgeport, MI. The Rev. Timothy Behnke will officiate. Friends are welcome to visit with the family at the Wakeman Funeral Home, Inc., 1218 N. Michigan Ave., Saginaw, MI, on Friday from 4:00 pm. to 8:00 p.m., then at the church on Saturday from 10:00 a.m. until the time of her services. In accordance with Bernice's wishes, cremation will follow. Memorial contributions are suggested to Faith Lutheran Church, Bridgeport. Memories and sympathies of Bernice may be shared with the family on her memorial website at WakemanFuneralHome.com

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 11. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Wakeman Funeral Home, Inc.
1218 N. Michigan Ave.
Saginaw, MI 48602
(989) 752-8531
wakemanfh@charter.net

Funeral and Committal Services

JAN 12. 11:00 AM (ET)

Faith Lutheran Church, Bridgeport
4241 Williamson Rd.
Bridgeport, MI 48722

Tribute Wall



“ *Mrs. Bernice E. Vega*

September 13, 2022 at 05:01 PM



“ *Mrs. Bernice E. Vega*

September 13, 2022 at 02:27 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mrs. Bernice E. Vega.*



January 09, 2019 at 09:59 AM



“ *RIP. I knew her, but not real well working PM's. Also having been a Recipient of the Hand & Heart Award during my working career it is one of the Highest earned locally, it comes from the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and less than a 150 are given out yearly, only one to each VA Hosp. she was chosen out of hundreds of employees. It shows & reflects that during her life & Nursing career, she loved and always put her pt's first over her needs. She made a great impression on the Veteran population and served them well, as I worked the post op ward. May the Good Lord take care of her & keep her in his loving arms, for the kindness shown others for eternity, and give the family peace and comfort at this time of sorrow and grief. Will keep you in my prayers. Ted A. Papesh RN (Retired)*

Ted A. Papesh RN - January 08, 2019 at 07:21 PM

CJ

“ Wonderful nurse and beautiful lady inside and out! Worked with her at the VA many moons ago. RIP Bernice!

Cheryl Jurgess - January 08, 2019 at 01:34 PM

DP

“ Auntie Mom...always laughing and loving. I don't think I ever heard a cross word from her. I remember staying with her in California, always feeling loved by her and by Uncle Papa. They were the best of all of us. We should be so thankful they were part of our lives. I know I am! I love them both and will miss them so. Can't wait to see them again.

Dianne Pomeroy - January 07, 2019 at 10:27 AM



“ Fiery Lily and Rose was purchased for the family of Mrs. Bernice E. Vega.



January 07, 2019 at 09:21 AM