



## Ollene Mae Nicolia

July 25, 1929 - April 11, 2012

Ollene Mae Shears Nicolia, born July 25, 1929 in Coopersville, Michigan ...the second of unexpected twins went home to be with her Lord Wednesday April 11, 2012 after a long battle with Alzheimer's Disease. She is survived by her husband Paul Nicolia Anderson, IN of 59 years, Tim & Sharon Stoner Nicolia - Royal Oak, MI, AmyNicolia & Kevin Draves - Anderson, IN, Stephen & Carrie Weemhoff Nicolia - Almont, MI, and Johanna Quantrell Nicolia - Garden City, MI., nine grandchildren, four great grand children and MANY "adopted" kids and grandkids. She was preceded in death by her son Thomas this past November 14, 2011, her parents Wessel & Amy Shears, sister Iris & twin brother Merlin. Ollene earned her degree from Michigan State Normal College EMU and her Masters from Saginaw Valley. For many years Ollene was a member of Mu Phi Epsilon - a professional music sorority. She was a music teacher for the Utica Community Schools - retiring in 1987 after teaching for 31 years. She was a highly gifted musician skilled in both piano and organ and handbells. She ministered as a church organist for over 60 years. Ollene gave of herself to hundreds of students who participated in solo & ensemble festivals. She accompanied countless High School and Community Theater productions, and was a substitute accompanist for the Detroit Opera Company. For the past four years, Ollene & Paul have resided in Anderson, IN, but had a fabulous 21 years of retirement living in Presque Isle, MI in a lovely home located on the shores of Grand Lake. She was the organist at the Presque Isle Chapel for the entire time she lived there. During the summer her

musical skills were often heard over the lake with boaters stopping to listen. Visitation will be held at William Sullivan & Son Funeral Home, 8459 Hall Road Utica, MI on Monday April 16 from 5-8pm. A celebration of Life service will be held at Utica United Methodist Church, 8650 Canal Rd, Sterling Heights, MI at 2pm Tuesday with Pastor Amy Draves and Dr. Gary Glanville officiating and with visitation at the church one hour prior to the service. Interment is at Christian Memorial Cemetery in Rochester Hills, MI. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Alzheimer's Association

# Tribute Wall

SS

“ *Fond memories and songs still in my head from my old school days at Ebeling Elementary school. Rest in Peace Mrs. Nicolia :*

Shannon S. - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ *So sorry to hear of your loss. The family sends their respects. She brought so much joy into our community. And also much to the neighborhood. Mary*

Mary Mazure - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ *I was one of Ollenes' students that she played for for solo and ensemble back in the 1970's. She was such a blessing and an inspiration. Those memories will always be fresh in my mind. God is getting a blessed daughter who will no doubt be a leading the choir on her organ*

Maura Mittelstadt - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

BM

“ *Paul & family: I feel so blessed for having been a member at UUMC during the time you were there. You have lost two most precious members of your family so close together and my heart goes out to all of you at this time. Rest assured that Ollene is now playing for that Heavenly Choir. God Bless.*

Betty MacGregor - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JC

“ You live on in the legacy of your love for your family and your values of education, music, and nurturing others in music. I only met you in the season of your life that you were preparing for eternity but I see you in your precious daughter Amy whom I cherish. I smile Amy as I think of your mother taking her place at a keyboard more grand than any she has ever played and joining the concert of praise with the saints!

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**Judy Clanin** - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this time. We were so blessed to have had her share her talents at church for so many years. Jeanne MacGregor Smith

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**Jeanne Smitj** - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ Dear Paul & Family, May the comfort of friends and family be your strength now and in the days ahead. The Almighty God will continue to bless you and strengthen you through this difficult time. Ollene's grand~performance is now before the host of angels and our Heavenly Father. She has passed but ther memory lives on in our hearts forever. Love,

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**Dawn Barrett** - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CP

“ So many fond memories of Ollene and her family. My thoughts and prayers are with all of them at this time of grief and remembrance. Sincerely, Cathie Jones Parker

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**Catherine E. Parker** - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM