



Ruby, Kathryn

(Nee Chapman) March 4, 1911 - April 18, 2010. Ruby, Kathryn (nee Chapman), age 99, was reunited in Heaven with her adored husband, Rolland Jacob, on April 18, 2010. She was born March 4, 1911 to Wallis and Anna Chapman of Eagle. Kathryn and Rolland married September 4, 1937, moving into the Ruby family homestead (Ruby Farms, founded 1848), where she lived until her last day. Kathryn stayed young at heart, largely because she nurtured and treasured her relationships with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She always gave all a kind, non-judgmental ear.

Kathryn lived her life for love of family and friends, never asking for nor wanting anything in return. At the close of her life, she was virtually the same gentle spirit she was when her life began. Kathryn will be deeply missed by her children, Betty (William) Dale of Pewaukee Lake, Joanne (San, Jr.) Orr of Village of Golt, Florida, Sally (David) Gerlach of Hartland, and Jacob (Gay) Ruby of the town of Delafield; her grandchildren, Robin, Chris (Brenda), and Scott (Kelly) Dale; San III (Sarah) and Nancy Orr; Kevin (Susan) Hough, Victoria (Sean) Kennedy, and John and Jeannine Ruby. She was also cherished by 12 great - grandchildren, nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Besides her husband, Kathryn was pre-deceased by two sisters and six brothers. An intelligent and insightful woman, she worked hard alongside Rolland until his death in 1989. Besides serving as partner and bookkeeper for their successful dairy business (founded 1933), Kathryn was a competent sounding board for Rolland when he made the transition to banker, real estate broker, and developer of Ruby Isle Shopping Center in Brookfield. The couple enjoyed dancing with the group The Footnotes. She was an avid bridge player throughout her life. Well into her 90s, Kathryn still hosted Christmas Eve family celebrations.

As the world changed around her, Kathryn remained an exceptional listener and demonstrated an unusual acceptance of people and change. Always a model of kindness and optimism, her warmth and sense of humor radiated out and endeared her to family, friends and neighbors. Kathryn's legacy to those she loved will be her enduring optimism, warm heart, and magnetic cheerfulness, which always filled others with joy. Her kitchen table was often filled with laughter, and those who were lucky enough to share the table's bounty have had their last free lunch.

Kathryn's family deeply appreciates and thanks her compassionate caregivers and companions, particularly Olga Strus, Jennifer Mataya, Inge Lund, Johanna Zink, Charlene Haasch and Monica Zundai.

Kathryn was a member of the Community United Methodist Church of Elm Grove, and the family thanks those from the church who kindly visited her and sent her greetings through the years. Those interested in expressing sympathy are asked to consider memorial donations to Community United Methodist Church, 14700 Watertown Plank Road, Elm Grove, WI 53122.

A private memorial service was held by the family.