



## Margaret G. Stewart

April 25, 1924 - March 26, 2014

Margaret Georgia (Neal) Stewart, born April 25, 1924, passed away in her sleep on March 26, 2014, at her home in Holly, Michigan, just short of her 90th birthday. Visitation is on Sunday, March 30, from 2:00 p.m. through 9:00 p.m., at the Dryer Funeral Home in Holly. Services will be held there on Monday, March 31, at 1:00 p.m.

Margaret, the third-born child of Nenon & Annie (Evans) Neal, was born on a cotton farm northwest of Hope, Arkansas, at the Crossroads community. Margaret lived on the Neal place at Crossroads until she was nine years old. She attended the Bright Star and Guernsey schools near Crossroads. In 1934, Margaret and her parents moved to northeast Arkansas near Blytheville and in 1936 to their southeast Missouri cotton farm north of Pascola. It was there in Missouri that she attended Deering High School and graduated from Wardell High School in 1944.

After high school, Margaret attended college at Southeast Missouri State Teachers College, now Southeast Missouri State University, in Cape Girardeau. After college, she returned to the farm to teach grades 1-8 in the nearby town of Peach Orchard. While teaching, she met a young soldier, Rex Stewart, who was visiting relatives nearby. They soon fell in love and married on August 3, 1946. Then in 1948, knowing that jobs were available in Michigan, Margaret resigned her teaching position; she and Rex then moved to Holly, and Rex worked in nearby Flint at General Motors' Fisher Body Plant. In the following years, Margaret worked jobs as a nurse's aide and for Avon Products; but most notable, she was a beloved long-time caretaker for children of two special families: the Cooks and Foleys. Along with her outside work, she took pride in being a homemaker, wife, and mother.

Margaret and Rex lived most of their lives in Holly. Feeling they desired to enrich their lives, they decided they needed children with whom to share their love; subsequently, they adopted and raised two children—Linda (Stewart) Hill and Donald Stewart. Linda preceded Margaret in death in 2008; and Rex preceded Margaret in 1992. Her older sister, Lois, passed away in 2003. These were all sad times in Margaret's life; however, during

the losses of her husband, her daughter, and her sister, she remained strong through the help of her beloved Seventh Day Adventist Church of Holly, where she had many friends who loved her and who mourn her passing. Her son, Don, moved from Fort Myers, Florida, last May to supervise her care and give her loving comfort. All who knew him will agree that her last months were enriched by his presence.

She craved knowledge, enjoyed reading, family reunions, and discussing family history with her siblings. She loved to laugh and have fun, take short trips, and eat out with her good friends, in particular at Fenton's "French Laundry." She was a unique, very intelligent, and proud person whom all knew and appreciated. She was thought of as one with a sweet, honest, and open personality, who was an accomplished listener, and who empathized, sympathized, and/or prayed with friends who came to her with special problems. In the summer, one could find her in either her vegetable or flower garden; in the winter, one might catch her doing her daily Bible reading, or watching her favorite television shows of "Jeopardy," "Wheel of Fortune," or "America's Funniest Videos." She enjoyed life and conversations with her many friends, including the Hollyhock Senior Citizens Club; and she especially enjoyed her church family for whom the entire Neal and Stewart families are grateful. She enriched the lives of all whom she touched, was a true friend, and will be greatly missed by all she leaves behind. She was a member of the church "flower committee" and for many years arranged for flowers to be sent to the grieving; now it is her turn to receive her eternal flowers. A huge void fills the hearts of us who loved her.

Margaret is survived by her son, Donald, of Holly; two grandchildren, Shaun Stewart of Sarasota, Florida, and Sharlene Stewart of Marietta, Georgia; and three great grandchildren. She is also survived by the remaining five of the seven siblings: Ina Neal Bryeans of Blytheville, Arkansas; Wesley Neal, Kansas City, Kansas; Wayne Neal, Antioch, California; Patricia Neal Harp, Springfield, Missouri; and Joy Neal Brown of Springfield, Missouri; and many nieces, nephews, and cousins.

<http://www.dryerfuneralhomeholly.com>

# Cemetery

---

## Lakeside Cemetery

Holly, MI,

# Events

---

**MAR 30** **Visitation** 02:00PM - 09:00PM

---

Dryer Funeral Home  
101 First St, Holly, MI, US, 48442

**MAR 31** **Service** 01:00PM

---

Dryer Funeral Home  
101 First St, Holly, MI, US, 48442

# Comments

---



“ When ever I would go to church, and misses Stewart was there, she was always so very nice to me! she was a good, loving and kind person, with a very big heart! I'm glad for all of the times that she was at church, and I was able to see her there! Even as a child, I could still tell that she had a heart of gold!

**Janice Lemmon Capra** - March 31, 2014 at 01:33 PM

---



“ Margaret was a dear friend. When I was in my teens, she would say to me, "Come home with me for lunch" So after church on Sabbath, we had lunch. I always felt honored. I remember doing this on many occasions. She was also a good friend to my mother, Betsey Krantz. They enjoyed walking on Sabbath afternoon. She was always cheerful and upbeat. I know she will see Christ someday, and He will welcome her home.

Glenda Krantz Hubbell

**Glenda Hubbell** - March 30, 2014 at 12:46 PM

---



“ Margaret was a terrific lady whose laugh was very contagious. She was terrific about visiting my shut-in mom numerous times when her health allowed. I remember from when I was a child and she was always extremely kind and friendly. She will be missed by many.

Barb (Twomley) Harriman

**Barb Harriman** - March 29, 2014 at 06:53 AM

---



“ Never Meeting Margaret I Feel As I Know Her. My Mother Was Her Cousin And Many Of The Qualities I've Heard And Read About Her Describes My Mother. As I've Leaned Over The Years Being A Neal Is AHonor. MyY Mother Margie Neal Adams Knight Passed On 2/28/14. At 85 . ,It's Up To The Bloodline Of The Neal Family To Carry The Torch And Help The Next Generation Understand The Hard Work And Pride The Passing Of These Great Women And The Help Them Have The Same Pride To Bee A Neal. My Heart And Prayers To Joy And Her Siblings And To All The Neal Family.

RosE Adams Burroughs Arkansas Neal Family

rose Burroughs - March 28, 2014 at 11:55 AM

---



“ Margaret will always be Mrs. Stewart to me, one of the many women who influenced the lives of young children in Holly. In later years on return visits to my hometown, Margaret would welcome me and ask about my life and family, always with a smile and good cheer. She was a stalwart of the Holly SDA Church as well as a delightful resident of Holly. My thoughts and condolences to her surviving family members. ---- Kelvin Krantz

Kelvin Krantz - March 28, 2014 at 11:07 AM

---



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Margaret G. Stewart.



March 27, 2014 at 04:50 PM

---



“ I'm very sorry to learn of Margaret's passing. She was a very good friend of mine, and I will miss her. - Edith Van Camp



**Edith Van Camp** - March 26, 2014 at 04:38 PM



“ I am so sorry Margaret is gone. She had such an enormous influence on our family. I consider her a family member. She was always there for my children, and she was always there for me....through the good and the bad, she had such a quiet understanding and comfort.

I loved her laugh. I especially loved when she laughed at herself! Her sense of humor was unique. Even at the convalescent home she had me laughing out loud.

She was such an interesting person. She had the most important job in the world to me, and that was helping raise my children. I will be forever thankful. My sympathies to her family, and everyone who loved her. I am going to miss her.

Mary Foley Allen

**Mary** - March 28, 2014 at 11:13 AM



“ So sorry for your loss. You and the family are in our prayers..  
Kim and Ron Kenslow

**Kim** - March 28, 2014 at 01:00 PM