



Mary Ann Ganss, age 91 of Manistee, died Thursday morning May 9, 2013 at the Manistee County Medical Care Facility.

She was born April 16, 1922 in Detroit, MI the daughter of the late John E. and Pauline (Bernatowicz) Piotrowski. She graduated from Visitation High School in Detroit. On May 30, 1947 Mary Ann married Charles Ganss at Duns Scotus in Detroit; he preceded her in death on January 15, 1989.

She was employed for over 20 years as a clerk for the Manistee National Forest Service. She also worked for J.C. Penney and Milliken's in Manistee. She was a communicant of Guardian Angels Catholic Church.

She enjoyed playing Bridge, gardening, sewing, knitting, quilting, reading and puzzles. Mary Ann was a special person with a quick smile and a sassy sense of humor. She enjoyed meeting people, traveling to new places, birding (especially cardinals), watching the sun go down on Lake Michigan, lobster dinner, fresh summertime tomatoes and Jelly Belly jelly beans. Fourth of July reunions were eagerly awaited. Her fashion sense was impeccable and she took great delight in shopping for clothes and dressing her family and herself in the latest styles. Mary Ann also made a mean meatloaf. Her greatest gift to the world was her sunny disposition and zest for life. In her later years, while residing at the Manistee County Medical Care Facility, Mary Ann became one of the favorite residents of the staff with her cheerful personality and ready smile.

We are all saddened by her passing but comforted knowing she is reunited with her beloved husband, Charlie. Our many good memories will sustain us until we meet again in heaven.

She is survived by 2 sons, Charles F. Ganss (Patti Harris) and William (Terry Lynn) Ganss both of Manistee; 2 daughters, Barbara Jean Schubert (Tom Jesnig) of Sterling Heights and Annalisa Baker (Danny Poppell) of Lawrenceville, GA; 7 grandchildren, Anthony (Michelle) Ganss, Ryan (Andrea) Ganss, Derek (Jennifer) Schubert, Kristina Schubert, and Lauren, Alexandra & Allie Baker; 5 great-grandchildren, Audrey & Brantley Ganss and Olivia, Quinn & Isabelle Schubert; 2 sisters, Barbara (Donald) Harter and Marguerite (Leonard) Carlson both of Manistee; brother, Eugene (Jean Marie) Peters of Novi; special niece from her late husband's family, Susan Reilly, along with numerous other nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by her brother, Jackie Piotrowski, son-in-law, Jack Baker; and best friend, Dorothy Ricke.

Cremation has taken place and a Memorial Mass from the Order of Christian Funerals will be celebrated at 11:00 a.m. on Monday, May 13, 2013, at Guardian Angels Catholic Church in Manistee with Father John McCracken, celebrant. Final interment will follow in Mount Carmel Cemetery. The family will receive friend on Sunday, May 12th from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Oak Grove Funeral Home, 309 Parkdale Avenue in Manistee with a vigil prayer service at 6:30 p.m.

The family greatly appreciates all the kindness and excellent care given to Mary Ann during her stay at the Manistee County Medical Care Facility and would appreciate any memorial donations in her name be directed to that facility.

Please visit Mary Ann's personal book of memories page at www.oakgrovefh.com to share a story or photo. The family has entrusted funeral arrangements to Oak Grove Funeral Home & Cremation Center.