



Cleo Frances Neynaber

January 3, 1930 - July 1, 2025

On July 1, 2025 Cleo Frances Neynaber (Ingalls) passed away peacefully at age 95 at Sunnyside Assisted Living in Cadillac, MI.

One of eight children born to lumberjack Leo Ingalls and his camp cook wife Viola, she was raised on the Zeba Indian Reservation In L'Anse, MI. In 1941 Leo moved the family to "The Projects" in Detroit. With electricity and indoor plumbing, jobs, busses and entertainment it was Oz to her. Cleo is the last of the Greatest Generation of Ingalls Aunts and Uncles. The Uncles were big and loud, the Aunts bigger and louder with their crushing loving and wonderful hugs.

In 1948 she married Clifford Neynaber and raised their four children in the baby boom suburb of Livonia, MI. In 1974 Cleo was the first in her family to graduate college with a degree as Licensed Practical Nurse, working at St Mary's and Oakland County Hospitals before retiring from the Oakland County Road Commission.

After years as snow birds Cleo and Cliff settled in Sarasota, FL with new friends and hobbies. Proud of her Native Heritage Cleo attended many Pow Wows and was a renowned Upper Peninsula Pasty maker, mmm!

A woman of great faith Cleo was a front row pew member of several Lutheran churches. Faith in the Lord guided her life.

A Gold Star Mother, she was preceded in death by son Russell (Rusty, Navy 1972) and husband Cliff (2016) and is survived by sons Roland and Douglas (Bridget) and daughter Gretchen (Jim) and several grand and great-

grandchildren, toss in about a zillion, others say 32, nieces and nephews and you've got quite a Clan.

What a life, from a dirt floor slab wood cabin to middle class America she saw it all! A celebration of Cleo and the Ingalls Clan will be held soon at date to be determined. As Cleo always says goodbye, "Love you little, love you big, love you like a big fat pig".

An online guestbook is available at www.petersonfh.com.

Tribute Wall



“ *Sorry for your loss BJ Faulkner-Stock*

Bj Faulkner-Stock - December 20, 2025 at 10:11 PM

TR

“ *We send you our dearest condolences for the loss of your mother. She had an interesting, long life. It is a pleasure to live next door to you.*

Tony and Liz Raduazo - July 09, 2025 at 09:15 PM

TO

“ *Condolences, Roland, on the loss of your Mother, Cleo, a beautiful woman with a wonderful life story. Your heritage is quite extraordinary, filled with meaningful memories, of which you are part of and can certainly be proud of. Your neighbor friends, Mary & Tim O'Neill*

Tim & Mary O'Neill - July 09, 2025 at 05:47 PM

GR

“ *A GATHERING OF THE INGALLS CLAN AND FRIENDS. We are having a Celebration of Life for Cleo on July 23rd at 11:00. At Acacia Park Cemetery. 31300 Southfield Rd, Beverly Hills, Mi. Meeting first in the chapel for a memorial service then to the graveside.*

Gretchen - July 08, 2025 at 07:45 PM

LM

“ Dear Neynaber family .
Your tribute to your Mom was so beautiful and touching. You have to be so proud of all her accomplishments in her lifetime. These are memories that will stay with you forever. Our deepest condolences to you and may God bless you and surround you all with love and peace.
Larry & Sandy McGuffie



Larry & Sandy McGuffie - July 06, 2025 at 06:29 PM

KY

“ Cleo was very nice to kid's and Cleo was always happy.



Kyle - July 06, 2025 at 01:12 PM

JM

“ Aunt Cleo received the Volunteer of the Year award from the Sarasota Sheriff's Department on March 11, 2010.



Joanne McKay - July 04, 2025 at 02:58 PM

J(

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Joanne Ingalls McKay (neice) - July 04, 2025 at 10:38 AM

GR

“ 5 files added to the tribute wall



Gretchen - July 04, 2025 at 05:20 AM

CF

“ Back in the beginning in the upper peninsula.



Carol Filipek - July 03, 2025 at 09:28 PM

MT

“ *Cleo is going to be missed dearly by her family and friends.* ”



MOLLY TEBBY - July 03, 2025 at 09:17 PM

J(

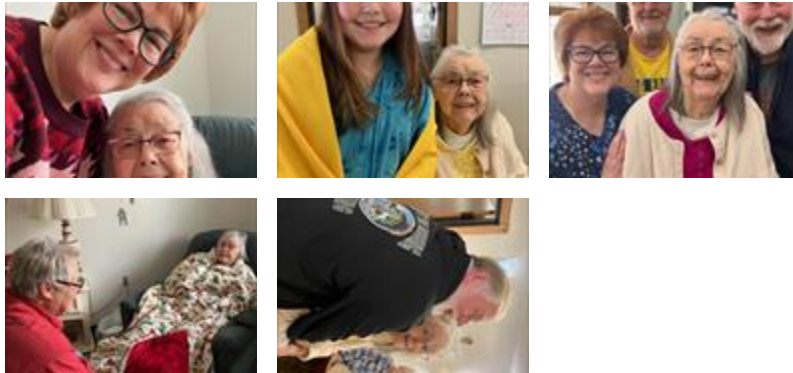
“ *1 file added to the tribute wall* ”



Joanne Ingalls McKay (neice) - July 03, 2025 at 09:00 PM

J(

“ *8 files added to the tribute wall* ”



Joanne Ingalls McKay (neice) - July 03, 2025 at 08:58 PM

SS

“ Scott & Renee Smith purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Cleo Frances Neynaber.



Scott & Renee Smith - July 03, 2025 at 08:47 PM

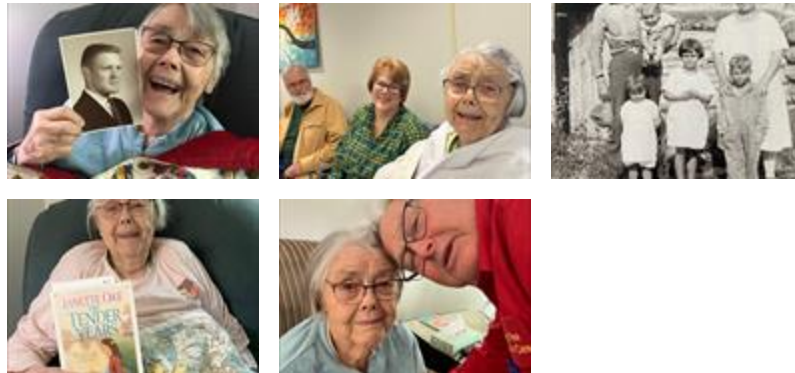
SS

“ Scott & Renee Smith planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Cleo Frances Neynaber.

Scott & Renee Smith - July 03, 2025 at 08:47 PM

J(

“ 5 files added to the tribute wall



Joanne Ingalls McKay (neice) - July 03, 2025 at 08:42 PM

RN

“Wow, Mom, who was the incredible literary genius that wrote such a fine obituary?! They covered all the bases...lumberjack parents, Zeba, epic move of family to Detroit, Oz, Rusty, Pow Wows, Pastys, dirt floor cabin. Kinda thought I saw a tear drop stain by Rusty's name...oops. Hey, how about that picture, Babe! Now we know what Cliff was looking at. And the description of all dem Aunts n Uncles, it's like I could smell em down here! Yes, I heard all that thunder Tuesday night Up There...Ingalls Clan. And yes, those poor in-law Dads, Cliff, Lloyd, and Bob are all waiting at their station wagons for the party to break up. Gotta little more time on my hands right now, hope you'll let me sneak off to the river this weekend, maybe slam a couple Trout for a Sunday fish fry. Trying to be good down here even with you gone, missing you already. Be sure to give a big shout out from all of us to Rusty, Bobby's best Wedding Wing Man, Honk Honk! Love you little, love you big, love you like a big fat pig! Whoops, there goes another tear stain.

Roland

Roland Neynaber - July 03, 2025 at 05:04 PM