



## Edna Malinda (Hollis) Runyon

February 25, 1925 - August 18, 2011

Edna Malinda (Hollis) Runyon died Thursday evening, August 18, 2011 at Green Acres Retirement Living in Cadillac. She was 86. Edna was born on February 25, 1925, in East Omaha, Nebraska, to Bernice Brumet Hollis and Nellie Mae Soules Hollis.

She received her high school diploma from South High School in Omaha, and attended two years at St. Paul Bible School where her sparkling eyes and cute dimples caught the eye of Ellsworth Runyon. They were married on February 25, 1945, celebrating their 66th anniversary in 2011.

Edna was a faithful companion and helpmeet in the Christian ministry serving with her husband Ellsworth at the Christian Missionary Alliance Church in Spirit Lake, Iowa, Friends Churches at Westland, and Greenfield, Indiana, and Traverse City, Michigan. Together they also served the Edwards Community Church near West Branch, Michigan for several years. Edna and Ellsworth maintained their membership in the Society of Friends (Quakers) through the Long Lake Friends Church.

Edna returned to college with five children at home, receiving her degree as a Licensed Practical Nurse in 1966. She fulfilled her call to mission and service through many years of nursing at Munson Medical Center in Traverse City, Grand Traverse Ophthalmology, Hart Extended Care Facility, and Reed City

Hospital. Following their retirement in 1986, Ellsworth and Edna continued to use their gifts serving at the Arizona School for Indian Children, and the Phoenix Friends Church.

Edna exemplified the Proverbs 31 woman through her industrious spirit, nurturing her family and many others by utilizing home grown vegetables, canning, and baking. Her skilled sewing and needlework blessed family and friends. She enjoyed watching birds, spending time in nature, and finding beauty in simple pleasures. She was an avid reader and considered the mind a "miracle too good to waste." Her feisty spirit and perseverance kept her praising God through her children, Royal (Carole), David (Sue), Sharon Brown (Lawrence), Vonalea Swanson (Dennis), and Ruby Meekhof (Kenneth) and 15 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren. Edna had a special gift of listening and opened her heart to anyone who needed to share.

She is preceded in death by her beloved husband Ellsworth on Tuesday, August 16, 2011. She could not wait to join him in heaven. She is also joining her parents, brothers Leonard, Homer, Carl, George, and sister Gertrude Montieth and grandson Robert Royal II.

Memorial services for Edna and her husband, Ellsworth will be held 11:00 AM Saturday, August 20, 2011 at the Cadillac Christian Reformed Church (1110 E. Division St.) in Cadillac with Reverends Brian Seifert, Bert Vanantwerpen and Candidate (Granddaughter) Sarah Meekhof-Albers officiating. Friends may meet the family from 10:00 AM until services at the church. Edna and Ellsworth will be laid to rest at the Cornell Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial gifts be given to the Cadillac Rotary Charities (to go toward scholarships) or to the Buckley Alumni Scholarship Fund c/o Buckley Schools, P.O. Box 38, Buckley, MI 49620. An online guestbook is available at [www.petersonfh.com](http://www.petersonfh.com)



# Tribute Wall

VW

“ We were neighbors on Fifth and Oak streets many years ago - I remember spending time at your home and how welcomed your mom and dad made me feel. I was saddened to hear of their deaths, and I will keep all of you in my prayers. I left a message on the Record Eagle website, too, along with my email address should you want to get in touch with me. God bless.

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**Valerie Greenlaw Wolff** - September 22, 2011 at 11:21 PM

CB

“ Keeping you in my thoughts and prayers

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**Christina Bright** - August 21, 2011 at 09:34 PM

CM

“ Your parents showed me how our lives impact the people around us. They were a true example of christian love. Your mom took care of me when I had my first son, and I, in turn, cared for her when she had her heart surgery. They were a wonderful couple, and will be remembered with smiles.

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**Carlyn (Page) Mann** - August 21, 2011 at 10:32 AM

JM

“ I worked with Ellsworth as a school administrator. I always felt appreciated by your father and mother. I believe it was their nature to make others feel loved. I regret that I was not aware of their presence so near by. Sincerely, Jim McKimmy

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**Jim McKimmy** - August 21, 2011 at 09:25 AM

BG

“ We are so sorry for your loss. Your family was an important part of our growing up years.

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**Barbara Huey Gurn** - August 21, 2011 at 07:55 AM

RM

“ miss you mom!

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**ruby meekhof** - August 20, 2011 at 09:55 PM