



Dena Myerchalk

September 3, 1912 - November 21, 2009

Our mother, Dena Myerchalk passed away peacefully in her sleep Tuesday morning, November 17, 2009 at the age of 97. For those of you who only knew her as an elderly lady living with Pat in Sterling Heights, here is a very brief history of her long life. She was born Adina Buraglio on September 3, 1912 in Bessemer, MI. However, another story of her birth has her being born on the Ojibway Indian reservation in Odena, Wisconsin, since her mother and father lived on the reservation for a number of years before moving to Ironwood, Michigan. She grew up in Ironwood and attended Luther L. Wright High School graduating in 1930. She then traveled to Chicago to attend St. Mary of Nazareth Nursing School where she graduated in 1934. She married Frank (Fred) Myerchalk on November 23, 1935 in Detroit where they began their life together. After the bombing of Pearl Harbor in 1941 our father was drafted into the Navy and shipped over to Hawaii to serve his tour of duty. While our father was overseas mother lived in a trailer park housing the wives and families of the Navy men overseas. After the war they returned to Michigan and had two lovely, well adjusted, amazing children, Frederick & Patricia. After raising these two exceptional children and when father reached retirement age they decided to move from Detroit to the more peaceful setting of their "farm" in North Branch. They lived there many years until one month short of their 60th anniversary father died in a car accident. Dena lived in Sterling Heights the remainder of her years with her daughter Pat and granddaughter Rozalyn whom she adored. Rozalyn and Dena had a very

special bond. Although Dena was Rozalyn's grandmother, she was everybody's "nona" (grandmother in Italian). She was also the oldest sister of Dolores and the late Arthur. Dena was an avid Detroit Tigers fan and loved going to Tiger games. She also loved the gatherings of family and friends. And as many of you may remember, at these get togethers she didn't seem to have any problem voicing her thoughts or opinions regardless of how PC it was. We can't forget how she enjoyed and was always ready at these events to salute with her glass of Black Sambuca. So in the future if you might be drinking Black Sambuca or even Mountain Dew (her favorite effervescent), raise your glass in a warm toast of remembering our beloved mother.

Tribute Wall



“ *Dena Myerchalk*

October 23, 2023 at 04:00 AM



“ *Dena Myerchalk*

January 06, 2023 at 05:24 AM



“ *Oh how Dena loved those Tigers. I can remember hours and hours of sitting at Pat's house and no matter what slump they were in, no matter how many players were not playing well, Dena believed they were going to win the pennant that year. Also fond memories of going to the farm with Pat in the fall to clean up the yard, etc. You want to talk about hours of work, then Dena would have a great meal for us. God Bless*

Dave Riege - November 23, 2009 at 06:59 PM



“ *I remember fondly how your Mother made such feasts for us when we would come to visit them at the farm. Your parents were so welcoming to us. I hope your good memories will bring you peace during this sad time. God bless you.*

Elly (Pushman) Brekke - November 23, 2009 at 12:04 PM



“ *Dear Pat So sorry to hear about the passing of your mother. Hope things are well with you it's been a long time. John Stanson*

John Stanson - November 22, 2009 at 08:44 PM

JF

“ Roz and Aunt Pat,
I am so sorry for your loss, although I am comforted by the fact that she passed peacefully. The bond that the three of you had was inspiring, and I'm sure that you have so many fond memories to cherish.

Jaimie & Andrew Fons - November 21, 2009 at 01:04 PM

TF

“ Dena will be greatly missed by all. Please know that our thoughts and prayers are with you, Pat and Roz. We miss you and love you. Karen, Paul, Luke and Gianna

The Alati Family - November 20, 2009 at 06:47 PM

PO

“ Pat and Roz and Cousin Rick, - We wish we were there with you in Michigan. We are thinking about you and how wonderful Dena and Freddie were. As kids, we really enjoyed going out to the Farm and "jumping into the Mouth", the huge hole that filled with leaves and playing the woods. Good stuff! It was great growing up as cousins and watching Roz grow up. We are very proud of her. I always enjoyed talking sports with Dena...she really new her stuff. Grandpa Gino loved his time with Dena..always talked about. We miss you guys and love you very much. Love, Paul, Karen, Luke Gino and Gianna Rae Alati. Lake Oswego, Oregon. Nov 2009.

Paul Alati Family in Portland Oregon - November 20, 2009 at 12:27 PM

RM

“ *To My Godmother:*

*How must it have been to become a Godmother in 1925 when I was born? You were such an important person in my life, especially then when you lived in Ironwood. Then you came to the lower, and when I came I would visit you and Freddie at 3317 Drexel Avenue in Detroit. You were always a loving, caring person. We will treasure your memory and miss you. till we meet again,
Reno Maccardini*

Reno and Becky Maccardini - November 20, 2009 at 12:19 PM

AA

“ *Oh Dena.....You were an amazing, wonderful, strong and loving Godmother to me. You will be truly missed. We have had so many happy and fun times together in Okemos and here.and to my Dad, Gene, you two were very best friends all your lives. I am sure that right now, you and Fred and my Dad and Mother, Lorene, are all sitting and playing cards and drinking wine in heaven.....just like you did here every week years ago.....and all pain free and peaceful
!!!!!!!!!!*

...and Dena...you were so fortunate to have such a wonderful caring daughter Pat, and Granddaughter Rozalyn.... to care for you for so many years.

God Bless you,

I love you very much and will miss you,

Andrea

Andrea Allemon - November 20, 2009 at 12:07 PM

AM

“ One of my fondness memories of Dena is at the Farm learning how to cook Italian foods. One day it was just her and me cooking all day and Freddie in the front room waiting for us to finish so he could eat. That was a fun day. Lots of fun times growing up with the Myerchalks. She was a great woman, a great relative. God bless Dena, she is at peace with God. Annette

Annette Maccardini - November 19, 2009 at 11:54 PM