



Esther E.

October 7, 1917 - November 7, 2011

ESTHER ELIZABETH KAY (nee Fele/File) age 94 of Hobart IN passed away at VNA Hospice in Valparaiso IN on Monday November 7 2011. She was born October 7 1917 in Gary IN to the late Alexander and Barbara File. She married the love of her life Victor Benjamin Kay in Crown Point IN on March 10 1945. (Both were serving in the military Victor was with the U.S. Air Force stationed in the European/African Theater and Esther was a WAVE/USNR.) She is survived by her son Victor T. (Alexandra) Kay of Portage IN grandchildren: Justin M. (Erin) Kay of IN Abigail E. (Robert) DeWar of OH great grandsons: John Michael Jack Kay Robert Gregory Bert DeWar special nephew Timon (Debra) Kay several nephews and nieces-in-law cousins and relatives in Hungary. Preceded in death by her husband Victor B. Kay on December 15 2003 son Gregory Benjamin Kay on December 14 2000 parents Alex and Barbara File sisters: Charlotte F. Mullin Grace E. Vidosics. Mrs. Kay was a member of United Methodist Church of Hobart where she enjoyed being a member of the M and M Supper crew. She had been a lifelong member of the Hungarian Church Grace Reformed Church of Gary. She was proud of her heritage and was proficient in the language and encouraged friends and students to visit Hungary connecting them by e-mail with her English speaking third cousin Dr. Agnes Horvath. Mrs. Kay was a 1939 graduate of Indiana State Teachers College Terre Haute with a BS/Physical Education and a MS/Physical Education from Indiana University. She was a member of the Indiana Retired Teachers Association. Mrs. Kay retired from

the Gary Community Schools (Emerson Tolleston and Lew Wallace schools) and was proud of her girls and praised them for becoming caring and contributing members of society. She served for 34 months as a member of the WWII WAVES USNR (Lt. jg). Mrs. Kay was the military officer at Naval Training Schools in Madison WI and Cedar Falls Iowa. Mrs. Kay requested that her body be donated to IU Medical School for research. Her cremains will be interred in St. Mary Orthodox Cemetery Gary IN at a later date. Pruzin Brothers Funeral and Cremation Service handled arrangements. Memorial donations may be made in honor of Mrs. Kay to: United Methodist Church of Hobart 654 E. Fourth St. Hobart The Building Fund of the Protection of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church 8600 Grand Blvd. Merrillville or Lupus Foundation of America 2642 Eleanor St. Portage.

Tribute Wall

KS

“*Esther Kay was a very special woman teacher and friend. I interviewed her in 2005 for my history of Gary IN and did an oral history with her several years later. She had an extraordinary memory and love for Gary her alma mater Froebel High School and the churches with which she was active including first the Hungarian Reformed Church at 13th and Jackson. She was the oldest living former teacher at Emerson H.S. having taught P.E. there for two years before enlisting in the WAVES. May she rest in peace.*”

Kendall Svengalis - January 12, 2012 at 12:00 AM

CO

“*Esther will be missed by her many friends. She was always an inspiration to us. She shared her life and adventures with us. The world was a much better place when she was alive. We will miss you very much. Cliff and Claudia Olszewski*”

claudia olszewski - November 22, 2011 at 12:00 AM

PF

“*Mrs. Kay was my gym teacher in the sixties at Arthur P. Melton School. I loved gym and Mrs. Kay. I have fond memories of her sending me to participate in the Gary city wide track meets each year. May her memories be eternal.*”

Peggy Fralinger - November 14, 2011 at 12:00 AM

VS

“*Thank you Miss K for many happy memories of Tolleston High School and our Tolleston class reunions.*”

Virginia Zapinski Such - November 14, 2011 at 12:00 AM